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THE GUARDIAN

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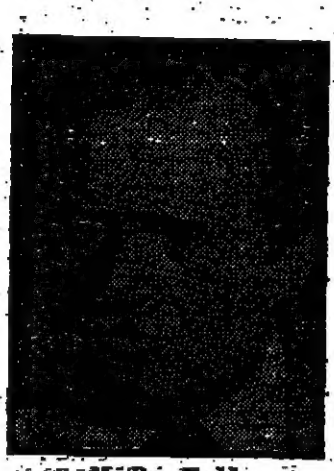
25p

HOPE
SPAIN'S SHERRY
GONZALEZ BYASS

Moss Evans 'will stay' to handle rigging claims

Todd agrees to re-run of TGWU ballot

By Peter Hetherington and John Ardliff
A new election for the leadership of the Transport and General Workers' Union looks likely after the statement last night by the successful candidate in last year's ballot, Mr Ron Todd, that he would favour a re-run to clear the air of ballot-rigging allegations.
Mr Todd's statement coincided with a hint from the retiring general secretary, Mr Moss Evans, that he might have to delay his departure to deal with the election problem.
Mr Evans accused the election runner-up, Mr George Wright, who is to see him on Thursday about the allegations, of not leaving him enough time to deal with the issue. He said it put in question whether Mr Todd could take over the job on the due date at the end of the union's biennial conference in June.
Mr Todd, speaking in Inverness on the eve of the Scottish TUC, said it was vital that the affair be quickly resolved so that the TGWU could return to normality.
He was clearly upset when he asked why it had taken 11 months for the allegations of ballot-rigging to surface. He also said he was concerned at the pressure being endured by Mr Evans.
He said he would support another election because it was vital for the union's leader to have the full trust, confidence and assistance of the membership. He declined to answer any specific questions but several times stressed the need for TGWU unity after six



Mr Ron Todd

preparing evidence of irregularities in five of the union's regions without prior warning.
Mr Evans told the Guardian that Mr Todd, who has been general secretary elect for 11 months, "must be going through agony." He added: "This thing is going to take a long time to get sorted, to discover whether there should be a re-run. It's a matter for the executive, not for me."
Asked if it would mean delaying his retirement, Mr Evans said: "I don't know. It's a matter for the executive. They have left me so little time."
He said of Mr Wright: "I cut short my visit to the US and cancelled my visit to the Scottish TUC and invited George to come and give his evidence to me on Monday. I've had a letter from him saying that he is unable to be with me until Thursday. And I understand from the newspapers that he is now, after 11 months, preparing the evidence that he is going to give to me. I don't want to be misled, but if he's anything like a decent colleague he would have told me before now, which is within a week of my retirement."
"He knows perfectly well that I can't declare an amnesty for those who he says are guilty of malpractice and have a re-run. Even the Jockey Club doesn't declare a race null and void without an inquiry," he added.
"If he has got any positive serious case that I can get my teeth into, I promise that I will deal with it, but I can't just order a re-run without an inquiry. So why doesn't he come and see me on Monday?"
Text to back page, col. 4

Jenkins attacks Victorian values

By Colin Brown, Political Staff
THE Bishop of Durham last night delivered his most vehement condemnation of the Government's political philosophy with a lecture which is likely to increase demands for his resignation.
Conservative backbench MPs who were prepared to tolerate the Rt Rev David Jenkins's earlier comments about the Resurrection, the miners' strike and unemployment, last night said the time had come for the Archbishop of Canterbury to sack him.
Bishop Jenkins in a BBC

Radio Four lecture criticised the extreme right and left wings of British politics and made scathing attacks on Victorian values — a clear reference to some of the Prime Minister's beliefs.
Advancing the cause of a "liberation theology" in Britain, he said: "To return to the ethics of 19th century entrepreneurial individualism is either nostalgic nonsense or else a firm declaration that individual selfishness and organised greed are the only effective motivations for human behaviour."
The Bishop's lecture follows growing criticism from

Tory leaders and other bishops who disagree with his teaching on the Bible, but it develops his political views more fully. He says that, while British liberation theology will take some of the diagnoses of Marxism very seriously, it will not in any way be dominated by Marxism.
By suggesting, even in passing, that his theology of liberation should take some Marxist diagnoses, Bishop Jenkins opened himself up

to attack for being a cleric with Communist sympathies. Conservative MPs were ready to seize on this part of his lecture last night but turned their annoyance to the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, for allowing the bishop to continue in his office.
"There's nothing we can do apart from object," said one leading Tory backbench critic, Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, MP for Selby, Cuck. "The Archbishop of Canterbury should tell him to go."
The political controversy caused by the bishop's lec-

ture is likely to be heightened by the return of Parliament after the Easter recess. There were signs that the Tory leadership, particularly Mr John Gummer, chairman of the party and a member of the Church of England's General Synod, is growing tired of countering the bishop's attacks on government policy.
It is believed that Mr Gummer had decided against rising to the religious and political bait provided by the bishop's recent utterances. But Mr Gummer will be under increased pressure to turn to back page, col. 1

NEWS IN BRIEF

Check on diplomats

THE vetting of all foreign embassy staff before they are allowed to live in Britain is among measures expected soon to deal with crimes committed by diplomats. Back page.



NOLE Gordon, (above), the actress best known for her part in Crossroads, died yesterday. Obituary, page 2.

Hindley review

MYRA Hindley, one of the Moors murderers, has been recommended for parole in the first official review of her case. Back page.

Uranium mounts

NEAR panic buying in the 1970s means that Britain now has its own uranium mountain. Page 3.

Push for funds

THE Reagan Administration is to make a final effort to secure funding for the Contra rebels in Nicaragua. Page 6.

The weather

CLOUDY after bright start. Details, back page.

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Clarke keen to end restrictions on GPs

By David Hencke, Social Services Correspondent
The Government wants to reverse the effects of the country's 23,000 family doctors as part of a radical change to open up the GP service to internal competition and encourage private practice.
Proposals being studied include ending restrictions on private practice, such as the one imposed by the Wilson Labour government which limits work by doctors in health centres. This affects 20 per cent, or 4,600 doctors.
More controversial proposals include relaxing the ban on charges doctors can make. Rather than introduce measures aimed at charging to visit patients the Health Minister, Mr Kenneth Clarke, favours encouraging doctors to introduce new services for patients.
Examples include private health checks — which a GP could do more cheaply than BUPA's health centres, and charging those women who could afford it for cervical smears.
The changes, to be put forward in a green paper this summer, will amount to the first substantial review of the family doctor service since it was set up in 1948.
Reform of doctors' contracts — which run to hundreds of pages of regulations — is seen as the catalyst to change the system rather than the introduction of a national voucher scheme or mass advertising.
Mr Clarke is recommending that Department of Health civil servants should draw up a final version for publication after the social security reviews are released by Mr Norman Fowler, the Social Services Secretary, next month.
The present GP contract strictly limits the right of doctors to take on private pa-

tients, make charges for extra services, advertise or provide information, and also restricts patients from changing doctors, easily, except when they move.
It is understood that Mr Clarke has instructed his civil servants to study every section of the contract to see how the regulations can be relaxed to encourage competition.
The result would be to generate more income for doctors, particularly in the prosperous suburbs and shires. At the same time patients would be told that they had more freedom of choice over extra services.
Mr Clarke also wants to make it easier for patients to change doctors in the same town and to be able to complain about services without having initially to face their own GP.
The overall effect of these reforms would put doctors' services more in line with dentists'. Patients would receive part of their treatment on the National Health Service and could pay for some individual items.
It would also have the attraction of allowing the Government to impose cash limits on the family doctor service, something it has so far felt unable to do because of the spectre of patients being turned away at surgery doors. If doctors had an alternative source of income, the threat of restrictions imposed on hospital services might be possible for GPs.
Mr Clarke is under pressure from the Prime Minister's office to go further and encourage the development of rival, private surgeries.
Mr Clarke — who has no personal private health insurance — has resisted such moves and is backed by Mr Fowler in implementing any change which would abolish parts of the NHS.

Labour rebels defiant on black sections

By Stephen Cook
Delegates from 24 constituency Labour parties decided yesterday to continue their defiance of the party's national executive committee over the issue of black sections, and to organise a "direct action".
The first such action is likely to be a demonstration in the Lewisham East constituency in south London on April 27, when the party's national agent arrives to try to solve a reselection row.
The national executive has told the Lewisham East party that its choice of a prospective MP will not be valid if it chooses from the two candi-

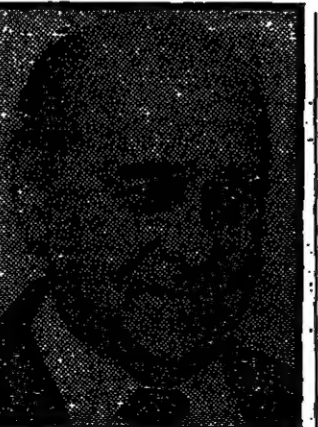
dates who have been approved by the participation of the local black section.
Another five constituency parties who have changed their rules in defiance of the NEC to set up black sections, along the lines of women's sections and young socialists, are likely to experience similar confrontations shortly.
They are Hornsey and Wood Green, Vauxhall, Nottingham East, Newham North-west and Deptford. Mr Marc Wadsworth, chairman of Vauxhall black sections, said yesterday: "The selection question has been introduced by the leadership. Our battle is for representation and justice."
Mr Linda Bellon, vice-chairman of the national committee of black sections, said that the leadership's handling of the issue was heavy-handed and inept and would lead it into political difficulty and embarrassment. "Black people have always had to break rules to get anywhere," she added.
Other delegates said that there were 53 Labour MPs who would not have gained their seats without the support of black people. If the Labour Party did not take seriously demands for equal representation and a legislative programme to reduce racial disadvantage, there would be widespread abstention by black

voters at the next election.
Mr Neil James, secretary of Nottingham East black section, said there had been calls for black people to abstain in the forthcoming county council elections in Nottinghamshire because the Labour programme did not deal with the problems of black people.
A working party on black involvement in the Labour Party, set up by last year's annual conference and due to report to this year's conference, is expected to give a guarded welcome to black sections of some kind. But there is intense opposition in the NEC, the leadership, the trade unions and Militant.

What's happening in the world of progressive education now that it is fashionable to sneer at the word 'progressive'? Education Guardian reports

Thatcher set to turn on Labour critics

By Colin Brown, Political Staff
Mrs Thatcher returned to Britain last night, apparently ready to ignore the advice of her Cabinet colleagues and attack Opposition critics who were offended by comments she made during her tour of the Far East about "seeing off" the miners' dispute.
The Prime Minister is expected to round on her critics in a statement to the Commons tomorrow, and to attack Labour spokesmen for undermining her efforts to beat the drum for British exports abroad.
However, her Cabinet colleagues last night took the view that it would be better for her to ignore the attacks. Ministers felt that by the time the statement on her tour is



THE condition of the critically ill president-elect of Brazil, Mr Francisco Neves, (above), worsened yesterday after his seventh operation in a month. Last night he had a fever and increasing lung problems and was still linked to a kidney machine and oxygen supply. In all, Mr Neves, aged 75, has undergone 25 operations since emergency abdominal surgery on the eve of his planned inauguration on March 15 prevented him from taking office as Brazil's first elected president for 21 years.

Thatcher set to turn on Labour critics

made the Commons, having returned from the Easter recess, will have more to concern itself with than whether Mrs Thatcher was in Indonesia or Malaysia.
Even Mrs Thatcher's most loyal backbenchers feel that the tour was too strenuous, and that she was wrong to try to fit so much into it. The breakdown of her voice during a key speech was regarded as evidence that the tour was too taxing, even though she put her lapse down to a combination of a cold and Sri Lankan air conditioning.
Labour spokesmen are convinced that the tour demonstrated Mrs Thatcher's lack of tact in foreign affairs, and showed that she had become detached from domestic issues. They are likely to try to capitalise on the growing concern among Tories that Mrs Thatcher's combative image could be damaging in the run-up to a general election fought

Britain's two faces, page 12;
Bow Group backs wages councils, page 18

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Captured suicide bomber 'not a believer'

From Ian Black in Jerusalem
The would-be Shiite suicide bomber captured by Israelis in southern Lebanon has said that he was not motivated by religious fervour but was forced to accept a "mission" to drive an explosives-laden car into an Israeli army convoy.
According to Israeli media reports yesterday the bomber, Mohammed Burro, aged 15, although a Shiite Muslim, was not religious at all, and was made to undertake the suicide mission to get his father out of trouble.
Burro was captured, together with a Mercedes car packed with 200lb of explosives, in an Israeli raid on the

village of Sir al-Gharbiyah, east of the port city of Tyre on February 23.
According to a report on the Arabic service of Israel's state-run television station last night, the youth told his Israeli interrogators that he ate pork, never went to mosque, and enjoyed the bright lights of Beirut, especially video parlours. "I am not religious and I do not pray," he said.
The youth, who appeared confident and at ease during the TV interview, said that he was employed as a fireman with the civil guard of the Shiite Amal militia in the Lebanese capital and had no contact with fundamentalist or-

ganisations like the Iranian-backed Hezbollah or the Islamic Jihad, groups which were widely assumed to have been behind suicide attacks.
Live suicide bombers being, by definition, fairly rare birds, Burro is something of a catch for the Israelis, and the extensive publicity he received yesterday was clearly intended to demystify some conventional wisdom about the strength and motivation of "fanatical" Shiite resistance in south Lebanon.
The young man's appearance follows pre-recorded interviews on Lebanese and Syrian television with two successful suicide bombers who together

killed 15 soldiers in attacks on the Israeli army convoys. Both bombers said they were motivated by loyalty to a secular, pro-Syrian Lebanese political organisation.
Burro said that his father, a policeman, knocked down the daughter of an Amal leader in Beirut and was himself injured in the accident. Amal managed to close the police file on the case and "convince" the girl's family to drop all financial claims. The movement also arranged medical treatment for the father, provided that Burro would drive the suicide car.
Burro told his interrogators that he was given two days of

spiritual and practical preparation for the mission, including driving lessons and how to assemble a Kalashnikov assault rifle. He was given a flask jacket.
"There were two buttons on the side of the steering wheel," he said. "I was told there was an iron wall and 50 per cent chance of survival. I did not believe I would die as a martyr. Amal trapped me. They said that my father would be killed or gaoled."
Asked if he believed in an after-life paradise for Shiite martyrs, he replied: "No one has gone there and come back."
Fighting at new peak, page 18

Board statement praises good sense of majority of workforce

MacGregor asks for evidence of pit intimidation

By John Ardill, Labour Correspondent

The National Coal Board chairman, Mr Ian MacGregor, has appealed to miners for evidence of intimidation or attacks on employees.

The request was made in a week-end statement reaffirming the board's intention to take "resolute action" against offenders.

Mr MacGregor said the board would not tolerate any intimidation of individual workers or groups of employees. The board was equally concerned to prevent any incidents of violence or intimidation to former working miners or strikers.

In a statement setting out instances of dismissal, he said that because of firm action ready taken "and the good sense of the overwhelming majority of miners," reported incidents had been very few and were getting fewer.

Underlining the difficulty experienced by the board and individual miners in getting evidence of offences, he said: "I urge everyone in the industry to tell his manager about any incidents of physical or verbal abuse. It would also be helpful to have any positive information and evidence from reporters who are writing on this subject."

He cited an allegation that a man had been struck on the head with a hammer while in the cage going down a Kent pit. The manager carried out a thorough investigation and interviewed the 30 people in the cage at the time but no one identified the culprit.

Mr MacGregor said that few calls had been made on a Freezone service set up to help miners with complaints to contact management. "Only in a few places have problems arisen. I am impressed by the ability of the vast majority of men in the industry

The cases quoted by Mr MacGregor in which action has been taken are: five men dismissed at the Phosphate works in South Wales after incidents involving another workman; four dismissed at Manvers, South Yorkshire, after an assault on a miner; two dismissed at South Kirby, Yorkshire, for persistent verbal abuse of workmates; and injunction against 39 dismissed Kent men preventing them entering the pit or assaulting or intimidating board employees.

Mr Tony Ellis, vice-president of the National Working Miners Committee, said yesterday that he was worried about proposed NUM rule changes which include the NUM president, Mr Arthur Scargill, giving up his vote on the union's executive so that he does not have to face reelection.

A strike-breaking miner whose home was attacked at the weekend was arrested yesterday. Keith Mettan, aged 37, will appear before Rotherham magistrates today, accused of threatening to commit damage to a neighbour's house. The neighbour, Alan Finney, was also arrested yesterday and will appear in court, charged with threatening behaviour.

By Patrick Wintour, Labour Staff

The engineering union president, Mr Terry Duffy, said last night he would defy any decision by the union's policy-making national committee instructing him not to take Government money for postal ballot elections.

The union is expecting to receive a cheque for over £1 million from the Government later this week to cover the cost of ballots held between March 1981 and September 1984. But leftwingers on the national committee, which meets in Eastbourne today, plan to order the leadership not to take the money.

Mr Duffy said: "If the national committee says that I should hand the money back I give you a categorical assurance that I will not be giving it back." The engineering union's million-strong membership voted earlier this year by a majority of 12 to one in a postal ballot to accept Government money, even though this placed the union in defiance of TUC policy and was in opposition to existing national committee policy.

Mr Duffy and the executive claim that the ballot result takes precedence over policy of the national committee. Mr Gavin Laird, the union's general secretary, said that there was no constitutional doubt, as the left claimed.

By Martin Wainwright

THE apple-bobbing and hoopla may be a little subdued at a garden party in May which features the first ever royal visit to a Yorkshire pit village. Financial straits and a mistrust of the establishment after the year-long coal strike appear to be sabotaging ticket sales.

Princess Anne is due in the village of Dimmington near Rotherham, on May 31 to accept a cheque for £15,000 raised by the local branch of the Save the Children Fund. Although the money was raised by local people, including miners on strike, the charity's organisers have sold only 500 tickets, leaving 2,500.

"If Princess Anne had two heads I would not be turning out to see her," said Mr Ken Kenyon, a local miner and a member of the National Union of Mineworkers at the local pit. "After being on strike for a year and seeing something of the Establishment, most miners are not enamoured."

A local councillor, Mr Mary Wainwright, said that she thought the price of the tickets, £2.50 for adults and £1.25 for children, was more of a deterrent than any political feelings.

"I don't believe the response is because people are anti-royal," she said. "But to see the princess will cost a family of four £7.50 and it's money they just haven't got."

Mr Wainwright agreed that local miners were still deep in debt and had many other priorities before turning out for a royal visit.

"Nolly had such great spirit that she seemed indestructible. She was very much a second mother to me, and also a great friend."

Miss Gordon was born in Ilford, Essex, and after training at RADA, made her first appearance at the King's Theatre, Hammer Smith, in 1938. Then she acted in repertory, returning to London to appear in various revues in the 1940s. In 1944 she first played principal boy in pantomime, becoming a frequent exponent of the art. She appeared in the first of many films in 1944.

OBITUARY

Noele Gordon — star of Crossroads

NOELE GORDON, the actress best known as a star of the Crossroads television serial, died in hospital in Birmingham yesterday, aged 61. She had been ill for more than a year after an operation for stomach cancer.

She became nationally known in the part of Meg Richardson, owner of the Crossroads motel, in the ATV series, later taken over by Central.

A close friend, Mr Geoff Lancashire, aged 86, a hotelier in Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire, said yesterday that the modelled the character on his wife, Edna. Noele Gordon got to know the couple through work for the British Empire cancer campaign in the 1950s and spent virtually every Christmas with them.

After she was sacked from the programme after 18 years in 1981, amid much publicity, she returned to the West End stage in the musical Call Me Madam. She was taken ill again with cancer early last year while performing in No No Nanette in Plymouth.

Mr Jack Barton, producer of Crossroads for 17 years, said of her yesterday: "Noele was in the mould of the great Hollywood stars. She was blessed with the charismatic star quality and was a great person to work with."

Actors in the series also paid tribute to her work and her friendship. Her "television daughter," Rosalind Wiseman, said: "Nolly had such great spirit that she seemed indestructible. She was very much a second mother to me, and also a great friend."

Indians urge quota talks

By Susan Thibault

The Federation of Indian Organisations wants to meet the Home Secretary, to press for an end to the "racially discriminatory" immigration quota system, after Mr Leon Brittan's announcement of a review of instructions to immigration control staff.

A letter to Mr Brittan from Mr Tara Mukherjee, the federation's president, says the present quota system increases racialism in the country by discriminating against non-white British passport holders. "The attitude of successive governments towards non-white immigrants coming into this

Miners shun royal fete

By Martin Wainwright

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Lakeland's shadow—a picture of decay

IN THE dripping corridor of a condemned primary school, Neil Kinnoch is addressing a group of anxious parents: "Teachers and children should not be subjected to the hazards and ugliness of a building that is clearly coming down in bits around their ears."

He has inspected the cracks in the bricked walls, sidestepped the scaffolding holding up the classroom ceiling and felt water bouncing off his head. He says it is all an affront to a supposedly civilised society.

Labour's chief environment spokesman, Dr John Cunningham, who has brought Mr Kinnoch to his Copeland constituency, is quick to say that the 280-pupil school is no exception. "The county is littered with buildings like this," he claims.

Montreal Primary School, in Cleator Moor, which was built as a temporary measure over 30 years ago, lies only a few miles beyond the Cumbrian mountains and the tourist traps of the National Park — yet it is a world away from the popular image of Lakeland.

England's second largest county also harbours industrial decay, high unemployment in the west and, Dr Cunningham maintains, a legacy of neglect which is now being slowly tackled. But for how long?

Mr Harold Blair, the young head of Montreal's junior section, believes the promised replacement school — which a hard-pressed Cumbria says it can ill afford because of Government cutbacks — is dependent on the county elections on May 2. Hence Mr Kinnoch's visit.

For Labour, the school has become a symbol of its fight to improve services in a county which had always been controlled by a loose Conservative independent alliance — like the old Cumbria and Westmorland counties it absorbed — until 1981. The Government has cut Cumbria's capital spending by 14 per cent this year. Labour, which took control in 1981 with an overall majority of one, is determined to press ahead as best it can. It has 42 councillors against the combined opposition strength of 41. Thirty-five



THE LOCAL ELECTIONS

Tory, three Liberals and three Independents, although one Labour member has resigned the party whip, making the chairman's casting vote crucial. Conservatives are committed to "efficiency savings" — sweeping privatisation as well, says Labour. Cumbria, pop. 453,000, stretching from the Scottish border to Lancashire and

Peter Hetherington finds the two main parties neck and neck in a Cumbria campaign focused on rival solutions to industrial decline

from the northern Pennines in the east to the Solway Firth, is by any standards a cumbersome county to administer. It is divided socially and politically, as well as geographically, by the Lakeland fells in the narrow western strip between the mountains and the Solway. It is largely Labour territory. But in the bulk of the

county, incorporating Lakeland, border fells, the Pennines and the sea of marshes, towns. Conservative loyalties are strong, and there is also a deep strain of liberalism in the old Westmorland county and north Cumbria.

The county has three Labour and three Tory MPs and one constituency. Barrow could hold the key to the outcome of the May 2 election. By common consent Barrow, home of the Vickers shipyard where the Trident submarines will be built, was lost by Labour in 1983 because voters objected to the party's unilateralist defence policy. And they included many of the 12,000 shipyard workers.

While the rest of Cumbria retains a moderate Labour image, the left-right divisions in the Barrow party have been well publicised locally over the past 12 months.

It has come to a head when, at the state of the Cumbria Labour party, three leading county councillors in the town were dropped and replaced by younger activists.

The Barrow row could make Labour's task more difficult but the council leader, Mr Hugh Little, from Carlisle, says he is not dismayed. "We have already taken on the powerful vested interests in this county and that means the Establishment of this county and that's no mean feat."

In this category he includes the amiable Conservative leader, Mr Trevor Farrer from Kendal, a farmer with extensive holdings, who acknowledges that he is a Thatcherite on economic policy while a liberal on some social issues.

Both main parties talk privately of the prospect of a hung council after May 2, but both rule out deals with third parties, like the Liberal/SDP Alliance, which is fielding 33 candidates, 27 Liberals and six SDPs.

The Alliance is in confident mood, particularly after the Penrith and Borderby election in July, 1983, when the Liberals cause within 552 votes of unseating the Tories after the ennoblement of Viscount Whitelaw.

Duffy defiant on ballot cash

By Patrick Wintour, Labour Staff

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By Colin Brown, Political Staff

Mr Michael Meacher, the shadow social services secretary, claimed last night that he would set the agenda for the reform of the social security system with the publication of proposals in advance of the Government's own package.

The main proposals to be announced by Mr Meacher at Westminster today include the ending of all mortgage tax relief for owner-occupiers and its replacement by housing benefit, increases in child benefit for all couples, and the abolition of the married man's tax allowance.

Other items in the package will be the introduction of a new one-parent family benefit and a special payment to 16-year-olds to stay at school.

The Social Services Secretary, Mr Norman Fowler, will publish his own review of the social security system early in May after gaining the approval

of the Cabinet for his final proposals, which the opposition believe will result in total cuts of between £1 billion and £3 billion.

Ministers yesterday criticised Mr Meacher's proposals for being uncosted. He insisted that it was possible to introduce them without a net increase in the total social security budget, partly because they would be introduced with a progressive tax system which would take back tax benefits from the better off.

Improved benefits would replace supplementary benefit which would be abolished and means testing would be ended.

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CRASH PRACTICE: Firemen rescue a "casualty" from the wreck of a train in a make-believe accident. The "disaster" was staged at St Pancras in London yesterday to test the preparedness of rail staff and the emergency services. Picture by Graham Turner

Meacher aims to set agenda with full reform package for social security

By Colin Brown, Political Staff

Mr Michael Meacher, the shadow social services secretary, claimed last night that he would set the agenda for the reform of the social security system with the publication of proposals in advance of the Government's own package.

The main proposals to be announced by Mr Meacher at Westminster today include the ending of all mortgage tax relief for owner-occupiers and its replacement by housing benefit, increases in child benefit for all couples, and the abolition of the married man's tax allowance.

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Elderly face quiz over extra benefits

By David Hencke, Social Services Correspondent

Disturbed elderly and handicapped people seeking social security to pay for private home places could lose up to £30 a week benefit unless they understand a complex new questionnaire.

From April 29 they will be required to persuade propri-

etors to help them to answer 14 questions about the home so that they can get the extra cash.

The questions ask if the home is registered under English or Scottish Acts of Parliament and whether it looks after the mentally ill, drug addicts, alcoholics, or the mentally handicapped.

The questionnaire comes into force as Mr Tony Newton, the Social Security Minister, brings in savings of £70 million on the social security bill by imposing national limits for all residential homes, hostels, nursing homes and board and lodging homes.

In some private old people's homes the rate for new admissions will fall from £215 a week to £110 from April 29.

Council report

By David Hencke, Social Services Correspondent

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Law threat to council after fight

By a Correspondent

BRADFORD council may face legal action from the British National Party for holding its election meeting on Saturday after fighting broke out.

The council's acting chief executive, Mr Brian McAndrew, stopped the meeting at Hutton Middle School, Bradford, after only 15 minutes after violence flared up when Mr John Tyndall, national chairman of the BNP, leapt from the platform and asked police to elect three people for persistently causing disruption.

Thirteen people were arrested and three policemen were injured.

The BNP organised the meeting in support of Mr Stanley Claydon-Garnett, former Bradford headmaster who is its candidate in a West Yorkshire County by-election. Voting is on Thursday.

Labour members of Bradford council have tried to veto the booking of the school by the BNP because of the risk of violence.

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Welsh vote effort by Labour

By Tony Heath

The Labour Party signalled the start of a campaign to revive its fortunes in rural Wales with a conference at the weekend which included a demand that farmers must protect the environment.

Labour won 32 of the prime minister's 36 seats in 1986, 29 of 38 in 1983 and is now represented outside industrial strongholds.

Mr John accused the Conservatives of introducing measures which threatened to break up rural communities. But it was his insistence on the need to recognise environmental interests with those of agriculture which staked Labour a new approach to rural voters.

"For 40 years agriculture has been to produce as much as possible. That's no longer applies and we have to say to farmers that they have a duty to the environment," he declared.

He said the changed situation should be recognised by transferring responsibility for conservation to the Ministry of Agriculture.

Environmental considerations were also raised at the weekend by Welsh dairy farmers hit by EEC milk quotas, the conference's main concern.

Discussions between the conservation group Greenpeace and representatives of the militant Dyfed Farmers' Action Group in London last week resulted in the emergence of a common interest unlikely before the quota system was introduced last year.

Mr Mark Glover, Greenpeace chairman, welcomed the fact that large organisations were swallowing up small farms.

Mr Louis Friedman says that 50 milkers in Dyfed make their living from 100 Welsh dairy farmers, and he backs the conservationist analysis, recommending how banks used to encourage expansion: "You couldn't go near a bank without being asked to put in another milking parlour."

It's the only sensible programme that's been made about heart disease because it really looks at the evidence," he said.

He criticised the policy experts, including the Health Education Council, who he claimed were embarrassed by the possibility of their fundamental beliefs being shown to be falsely based.

It's a travesty of the truth because if you look for isn't there. The truth is, we don't know and we ought to shed this false hypothesis and start again."

Channel 4 insists that screening such views in the programme as it stands "could be dangerously misleading."

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Jasmine death may change child care law

The Beckford case coincided with a government review of legislation, writes Malcolm Dean

Jasmine Beckford's death at the hands of her stepfather, like that of Maria Colwell more than a decade ago, could influence a government review of child care legislation now going on.

The working party has drawn up 12 consultative papers and one of its first recommendations is on the benefits of trying to rehabilitate children in compulsory care with their natural parents.

There are three categories of children in the care of local authorities: "volunteers" voluntarily placed there by parents, usually because of some temporary family problem, such as illness; "witnesses" compulsorily taken in because of abuse, neglect or cruelty; and "villains" placed there for criminal offences.

One concern of the Committee's select committee was the rights of natural parents. In the working party inquiry, it was found that social workers were not making enough effort to rehabilitate children with parents.

Backs between parents and children in compulsory care are much more frequently severed, although about 25 per cent spend trial periods with families or friends.

Various family pressure groups campaigning for the rights of natural parents believe that even more children should be rehabilitated with their families.

One option suggested in the select committee's report last November and being examined by the working party, would be to place a general duty on local councils to seek, whenever possible, the rehabilitation of all children in care.

In its first consultative report, the working party notes: "Improving a social worker's role might encourage some local authorities who at present are concentrating less effort on rehabilitation than others. The proportion of children rehabilitated might be increased and the length of their stay in care reduced."

The implications of bringing compulsory care into the same position as voluntary care with regard to rehabilitation would be that both sets of children can equally benefit from being reunited with their families.

This report was circulated to child care specialists — it has not been formally published — at the end of January, before the trial of Jasmine Beckford's parents, but the risks spotlighted by her death were anticipated.

The report notes: "To expect local authorities to work towards rehabilitation in all cases would be to ignore the many instances where the child would be completely inappropriate."

The report suggests local authorities would only have to look for rehabilitation in compulsory care cases where it appears to them consistent with the welfare of the child. After the Beckford case this might still be too much for the Government. The select committee was careful not to make rehabilitation a full recommendation but only included it as one option.



HIGHSTEPPING white horses descended from the famous Lipizzaners at the Spanish Riding School in Vienna listed up for bidders at the disposal of the breed's only British stud, writes Penny Chorlton.

Thirty-two of the Lipizzaners, including sires, colts and mares in foal, were auctioned for between £1,000 and £12,000 each at Cable Farm Stud, near Mayfield, East Sussex, to buyers who had come from as far as Scotland for the sale.

Lipizzaners have been used successfully for driving carriages, and there is also interest in their use for dressage.

Leaders of GCHQ unions sit on report

By Richard Norton-Taylor

Civil Service union leaders are refusing to release a special report drawn up by their members about the Government's decision to ban unions at GCHQ because it contains critical comment about their tactics.

Copies of the report have already been sent to delegates who will attend the biennial conference of the Civil Service Union — the union which had most members at GCHQ — at the end of the month.

But 20,000 other copies which were due to be distributed throughout the trade union movement by the council of Civil Service Unions and the TUC have been blocked.

Mr Peter Jones, secretary of the council, has been asked to rewrite certain passages which criticise the conduct of the council's main policy committee.

The report criticises the committee for making concessions to the Government in particular over a no-disruption agreement without gaining any commitment from the Prime Minister and her Cabinet Secretary.

The row over this criticism of some union leaders has diverted attention from the report's attack on what it describes as the Government's inconsistent defence when challenged in the courts last year.

The report asks why, if industrial action at GCHQ in 1981 pointed to a dangerous conflict of loyalties among staff, did the Government wait so long to act?

No inquiry was set up on the effects of the industrial dispute, although the issue could easily have been referred to the Security Commission.

Clarke 'blackmailing' nurses about pay

By Penny Chorlton

Mr Kenneth Clarke, the Health Minister, is using "moral blackmail" to try to hold down this year's pay increase for nurses, the general secretary of the Royal College of Nursing, Mr Trevor Clay, has claimed.

Mr Clarke's attack was the first shot in an RCN campaign to ensure that the Government honours the recommendations of the independent pay review body.

Mr Clarke has told nurses and the review body that any increase over 3 per cent would have "serious consequences for the health service, and if the award is more than inflation this will eliminate any scope for expanding services."

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Crusading trespasser opens path

By Alan Dunn

MR BENNY Rothman proudly took the first symbolic steps yesterday along a new footpath around the 2,000-foot summit of Kinder Scout in the Peak National Park where 53 years ago he was involved in the mass trespasses to win access to the moors and was gaoled for his pains.

The four-mile circular footpath is one of the fruits of the relationship between Kinder's present owners, the National Trust, and the Kinder Advisory Committee which links open-air organisations concerned to preserve the popular rambling area for the nation.

It opens in the year when the Ramblers' Association is celebrating its jubilee with a 2,000-mile walk round England and Wales and the opening of another long-distance walk, the Ribbles Way, is imminent.

Yesterday's opening ceremony at Ashes Farm, near Hayfield, was attended by some of the people who raised £200,000 to help the National Trust to buy the 34,000-acre Kinder estate three years ago.

Ramblers have also helped a National Trust scheme to regenerate the dying moorland.

"We were initially apprehensive of the National Trust," said Mr Rothman, aged 73, the committee secretary.

She underwent heart surgery in London in January 1982 and is under regular medical supervision at the London Chest Hospital.

Her doctors have told the Home Office that leaving Britain could endanger her life because within 10 years she will probably need further heart surgery which will not be possible in Pakistan.

The family's case is supported by Mr Barry Cohen, Labour MP for Leyton.

Anglo-Irish 'secrecy' criticised

From Paul Johnson in Belfast

Northern Ireland's Alliance party has called for a new Anglo-Irish talks on the future of the province to be brought into the open.

Speaking at the party's conference in Belfast at the weekend, its leader, Mr John Chisholm, said the way the process was being conducted was generating real worry.

Family faces deportation

By Susan Thibault

The Home Office has ordered a Pakistani family to leave Britain despite the fact that their case is still pending in the Court of Appeal.

Mr Shahid Ali Syed, aged 30, and his 25-year-old wife Nasreen of Leyton, east London, appealed against deportation on the grounds that Mrs Syed has a heart condition requiring treatment which is unavailable in Pakistan.

Comments on the consultative report have to be completed in May.

Welsh effort by Labour

By Alan Dunn

Welsh Labour is making a concerted effort to win the support of the Welsh people for its policies.

The party is launching a series of campaigns to highlight its commitment to social justice and economic development.

Labour is also working to build a strong base of support in the Welsh-speaking communities.

The party's goal is to become the dominant force in Welsh politics and to implement its policies for the benefit of all Welsh people.

Government panic led to nuclear surplus British uranium stocks now far outstrip demand

By Paul Brown

Britain has a uranium surplus bigger in potential energy output than the coal mountain which provided such a cushion for the Government during the miners' strike.

Among the largest stockholders is the Ministry of Defence which now has enough in store for all its needs in the "foreseeable future" including the Trident submarines' engines and missile warheads.

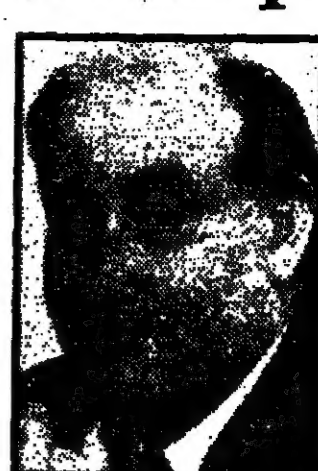
The reason for the large surplus was the near panic of the governments of nuclear nations in the 1970s when it was believed that the expansion of the industry would outstrip the supply of uranium ore.

This led, among other things, to the signing of the contract with Rio Tinto-Zinc's Rossing mine in Namibia when Mr Tony Benn was Energy Secretary.

The row over the contract rumbled on for 10 years but successive Governments refused to cancel it.

The Thatcher Government said United Nations' decrees and structures on the exploitation of Namibian natural resources before independence were not binding but commercial contracts between the Central Electricity Generating Board and Rio Tinto Zinc were.

However, it was with some



Sir Walter Marshall: Reprocessing uneconomic

relief that the Government was able to announce two years ago the ending of the Namibian contract and it was confirmed earlier this year that the last delivery under the contract had been made around Christmas.

Because of the long-term nature of the Namibian contract and additional contracts with Canadian suppliers Britain was importing far more uranium than it could use.

Actual stores are kept secret but estimates of supplies for civil use vary between 6,000 and 10,000 tonnes.

The annual consumption is said to be 1,500 tonnes.

At a recent hearing of the Commons select committee on nuclear waste Sir Walter Marshall, chairman of the CEBG, said that because of the current world surplus of uranium and plutonium it was no longer economic to reprocess spent fuel from the new generation of reactors.

One of the options now being considered by the CEBG is the long-term storage of spent fuel until reprocessing is economic.

Another aspect of the Namibian contract which made it politically embarrassing for successive governments was that it had no restrictions on use. The Canadian and Australian governments both restrict the use of their ore for peaceful purposes.

This did not prove to be a problem for Britain because the Ministry of Defence anticipated this difficulty and bought a strategic reserve from an undisclosed source. This source is almost certainly South Africa.

In the Commons on March 20, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, confirmed the Government's policy not to assist the South African Government with its nuclear weapons or nuclear power programme.

Judges to debate family court idea

By Malcolm Dean

The judiciary and the Bar have agreed to attend a one-day conference next month which the Law Society is organising to push for the creation of a family court.

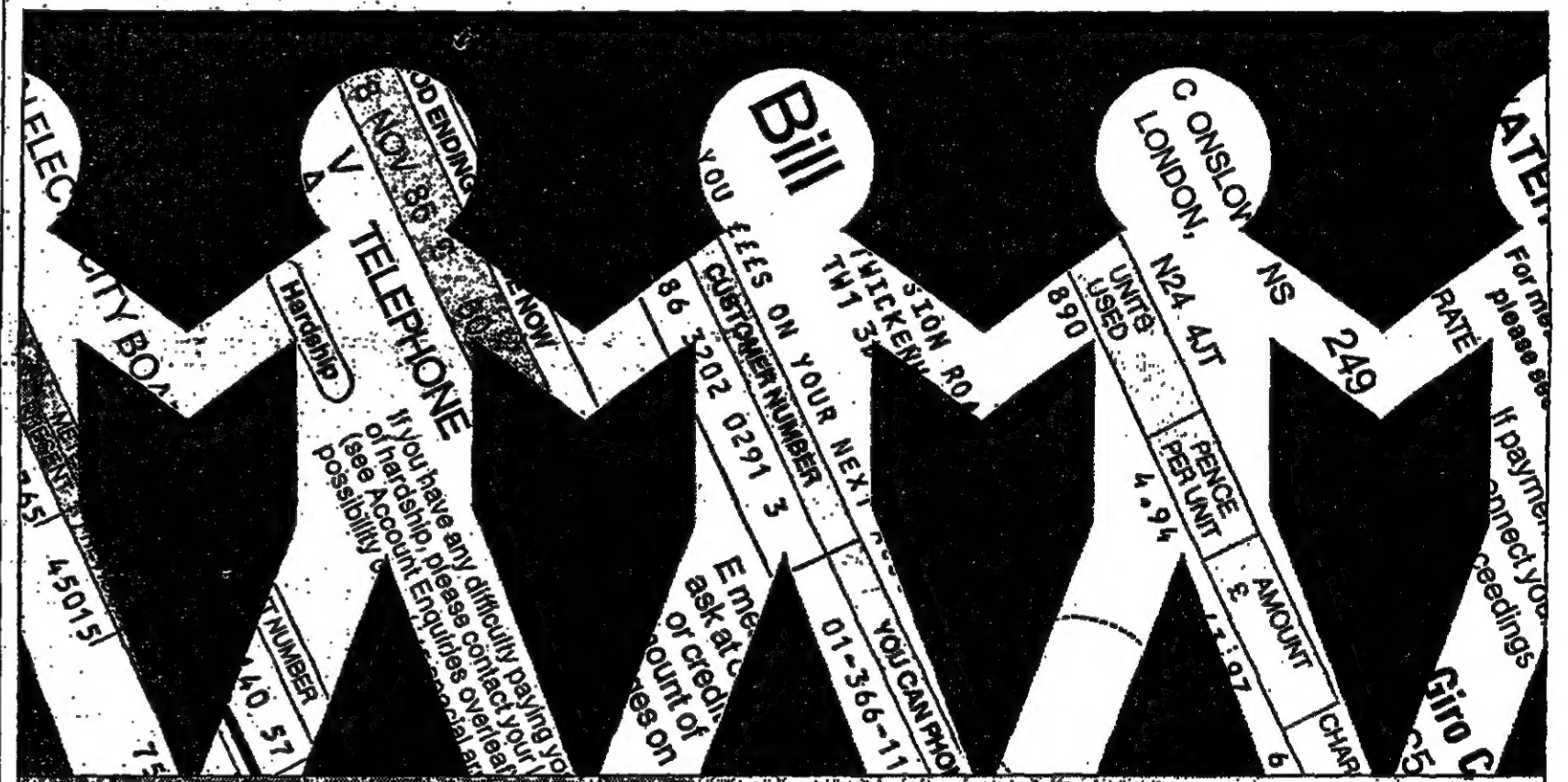
Ever since the Finer report first proposed a family court 11 years ago barristers and a number of judges have opposed the idea, but now they

are to debate the measure with those groups — social workers, solicitors, justices' clerks and the select committee on social services — who have been consistently in favour.

The barristers fear that the reform would allow solicitors a wider right of audience before the courts. Some judges have welcomed the idea but others have balked at the emphasis on informality, the introduc-

tion of special court welfare officers, the switch from adversarial to inquisitorial discourse and the use of lay magistrates sitting alongside the registrars in the lower tier.

The Law Society, which represents some 45,000 solicitors, is suggesting a number of ways the family court could be organised. It hopes the conference will arrive at a consensus.



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On the right lines.

The first 100 mph newspaper train runs from Euston on Saturday night to Scotland carrying Scottish supplies of The Sunday Times, The Observer and Sunday Telegraph.

British Rail InterCity in fact runs more trains at, or over, 100 mph than any other country in the world.

The InterCity 125 high-speed trains operate in almost half of InterCity services, and the Flying Scotsman now covers the 400 miles between London and Edinburgh in only 4½ hours (a journey that in 1933 trains used to take 8½ hours to do).



Money from 'Underneath the Arches'

British Rail's Property Board are turning 100-year-old railway arches into modern centres for small businesses.

They will be spending £2 million a year converting and restoring some of the 15,000 arches — half of them in London — into suitable accommodation.

It will not only increase BR's rental income, but breathe new life into run-down inner-city areas.

BR expands services to businessmen.

Not only do BR offer faster timings making city-to-city centre journeys competitive with many airline times, they're offering the businessman much more too.



£2 million is being invested in refurbishing 400 InterCity carriages which will feature improved seating with telephones, luxury Wilton carpeting and easier-on-the-eye décor.

Car service while you travel by train.

The first of a network of car servicing and valeting outlets has been opened at Rayleigh in Essex at the British Rail car park.

Travellers are able to leave their cars from 6.30 in the morning and collect them with the service work done when they get back to the station in the evening.

The 'Serviceman' service, in association with British Rail, is operated on a franchise basis. It is primarily aimed at the commuter, but should attract a much wider spread of car users.



We're getting there.

Zoos face biggest challenge in their history



ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR: the modern approach to animal display (above left) contrasts with the unacceptable face of zoos (right). Pictures by Kenneth Saunders and Denis Thorpe

LONDON Zoo's polar bears have gone north — although only as far as Dudley. Their erstwhile home, the bleak Mappin Terrace, will soon be demolished and then demolished.

Dramatic changes are going on at the biggest zoo in the country, and underlying them is nothing less than a nationwide zoological revolution.

Victorian values have bitten the dust in the zoo world. London Zoo was built in last century to gratify the peep-show curiosity of the masses as well as the stamp-collector mentality of its owners. The aim was to exhibit as many peculiar birds and beasts as possible.

Times have changed, and the pressure is on Britain's 200 or so zoos to keep their creatures in bigger and better enclosures. The zoos say that opinion in the trade has changed. Animal welfare experts say that the public, enlightened by, among other things, TV wildlife documentaries, will no longer accept the sad spectacle of pathetic elephants, gorillas and the like battering themselves in frustration against prison bars.

Stefan Ormrod, the RSPCA's zoo expert, is categorical about what is happening. "The zoo concept in the main is a failure," he said, "only a handful of the best are attempting to achieve anything in the fields of research, conservation and education and the rest of them rank with circuses and fun-fairs — places for people to go and gawp at exotic beasts."

He was one of the prime movers behind the Zoo Licensing Act which came into force last August after a decade of pressure from vets and animal experts and opposition from the big commercial zoos which minted money in the Sixties.

For centuries, anyone with a couple of pythons or a tiger could put them in cages and take money. All the RSPCA could do was prosecute in cases of proven cruelty. Under the new act, three zoos have been refused a licence by newly appointed government inspectors — Knarborough, Westbury Wildlife Park outside Bristol and Zootopia, more recently called Rainbow's End, in Bognor Regis.

During the next few years the appearance of British wildlife collections will change radically. But not everyone is happy. Sarah Boseley reports

Mr Nick Nyoka, owner of Knarborough Zoo in Yorkshire, who says he has been in the business all his life, is outraged. He intends to appeal but says that the improvements he is required to make will cost £50,000. The RSPCA says £250,000 would be more realistic.

Mr Nyoka said: "We look after our animals because if they are not looked after you get a whacking vet's bill." He blames his present troubles on "the do-gooders and animal rights people."

Mr Ormrod says the Act was not intended to close zoos, but to bring them up to standard and, inevitably, many will not be able to afford that.

He sees future developments based on collections of individual species, like the Otter Trust in Suffolk. Mr Bill Jordan, zoo vet and founder of the People's Trust for Endangered Species, would like to see collections of temperate species of all sorts living in as near as possible a re-creation of their original living conditions, large enough for them not to know they were fenced in.

"There should be no tropical animals ever. The climate in this country is not right. But we could have mixed groups of deer, foxes, Russian and Scandinavian animals, beavers, bears — all sorts. We could even have wolves, although they'd have to be isolated at calving time."

Going to the zoo would be more like bird-watching. Families would have to be in cars and spend several hours with binoculars — as they would on an African safari.

Mr Jordan, who also had a hand in the Zoo Licensing Act, has few good words to say about the so-called "safari parks" in this country, however.

He said: "All they are is drive-through zoos. Some of the safari parks don't provide proper sleeping quarters and have nowhere to isolate sick or injured animals and no way to collect them up. They don't even keep endangered species — just the common varieties."

The big zoos have been slow to see the revolution coming, but they are now going out to meet it, money permitting.

London Zoo has been given £2 million by the Government in the last year to help it out of a deficit and put it on the road to reconstruction.

Mr David Jones, the zoo's director, sees worlds of difference between the "purely commercial, tin-pot little places that probably won't get through the Zoo Licensing Act anyway and the very large, multi-disciplinary set-up like ours here, which is a very complex organisation."

The new philosophy, he says, is to have fewer total animals but concentrate on species genuinely there for education and conservation reasons.

Computers come into this, as with any modernisation programme. Big, respectable zoos are co-operating in exchanging animals for exhibition and breeding. Every animal owned by the 51-member British Zoo Federation is now recorded on computer.

However much zoos put their animal houses in order, they will only succeed in giving qualified pleasure to the experts and — to pressure groups like Zoo Check, set up by the actors Virginia McKenna and Bill Travers after the death at London Zoo of an elephant called Pole Pole who starred in one of their films.

Mr Travers said: "We will maintain our position of criticism of the zoo because, whatever they do about welfare, they are not coming to terms with the philosophical questions behind it. The number of conservation successes they achieve are fairly small."

He would rather see money spent on the conservation of areas, such as rain forests, where animals are threatened in their natural habitat. If people wanted to see them they should go there.

"You don't take the Leaning Tower of Pisa away because people outside Italy want to see it," he said. "We think all zoos are unacceptable in their present forms, and some are more unacceptable than others."

'Minister for waste' plan criticised as inadequate

By David Rose

The Prime Minister is today expected to announce the appointment of a minister for waste, to be responsible for co-ordinating efforts to recycle industrial and household rubbish which could save hundreds of millions of pounds a year.

Last night, however, opposition MPs were sceptical about the proposal, saying that it bore all the signs of a public relations exercise which would fail to tackle the problem adequately.

It is understood that the announcement will take the form of an answer to a parliamentary question, and that the new job — which is expected to go to a minister from the Department of Trade and Industry — will involve co-ordination between the Environment and Trade departments.

Last December the Commons select committee on trade and industry produced its report, A Wealth from Waste, which drew attention to the fact that current efforts to organise recycling are hampered by confusion about the respective roles of the two departments.

The report said the £750 million was literally being thrown away in rubbish every year, and that this sum — chiefly in the form of glass, textiles and paper — could be recovered.

Westminster sources were suggesting yesterday that the new minister would not be given staff of his own but would simply chair an inter-departmental committee. It was not clear whether there would be any additional expenditure or investment assigned to recycling projects.

Dr David Clarke, the shadow environment minister, said that he feared that the exercise amounted to no more than window-dressing at a time when there was a heightened public consciousness on environmental matters and the immediate pressure of the select committee report.

"It is a genuine initiative then we would welcome it," he said. "But one has to be hesitant, and the Government is in trouble at the moment — it does seem at first sight to be a public relations exercise."

The Government has abandoned all pretence of having a real environmental policy and is responsible for allowing an ecological catastrophe to continue in Europe, an environmental pressure group claimed today.

"Britain's sulphur pollution falls all over western Europe as acid rain, and there is not a shred of scientific doubt that power stations are mainly to blame," said Friends of the Earth spokesman Mr Chris Rose.

"A Government which allows such an ecological catastrophe to continue has thrown up all pretence at a real environmental policy."

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"The Treasury has been a main opponent of pollution controls and has been passing on the money to the Department of the Environment, which has returned it to us."

"We will continue the 'pound-to-stop-acid-rain' campaign until Britain joins the 30 per cent club of countries which backs the EEC directive which calls for a 60 per cent reduction in sulphur dioxide emissions by 1995."

New guide on X-rays

By Susan Milne

Tighter guidelines on X-rays for pregnant women are published today by the National Radiological Protection Board.

The board now recommends that for X-ray purposes women should be considered pregnant unless there is evidence to the contrary; and that X-rays of a woman's pelvic region during pregnancy should only be carried out if the risk of failing to make a diagnosis is greater than that of damaging the foetus.

This advice supersedes earlier recommendations aimed at restricting less urgent X-ray examinations to the 10 days after the start of menstruation — the so-called "10-day rule".

It reflects new research on victims of the 1945 nuclear attacks against Japan.

The Government has abandoned all pretence of having a real environmental policy and is responsible for allowing an ecological catastrophe to continue in Europe, an environmental pressure group claimed today.

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Injured trainee in test case

A teenage girl who was bitten on the nose by a horse while working on a Youth Training Scheme course has launched a test case for compensation against the Department of Health and Social Security.

Anita Garlinge, aged 19, of Deal, Kent, still bears a scar from the incident last year when she was training to become a riding instructor. She was treated in hospital and spent five days off work.

Labour's shadow health spokesman, Mr Michael Meacher, claimed yesterday that 20 youngsters had been killed working on the schemes without any compensation for their families.

Industrial injury benefit was refused to Anita who received a £25 weekly training allowance while on the scheme in "employed earner's benefit".

She is due to appear before a social services appeal tribunal in Faversham on Wednesday, but her mother, Mrs Margaret Earlings, said the case may be adjourned to give the family more time to prepare.

Three solicitors had advised her to cancel the tribunal "on the grounds that it is not worth going through with."

But she said: "I feel that it is not right."

Mr Meacher, MP for Oldham West, has argued the case for Anita and many other injury victims. "It is most unjust that young people can be forced on to YTS courses at 16, without any training or supervision, and then if they are injured or even killed — as more than 20 have been so far — they or their families have no entitlement to compensation," he said.

The proposal for an agency agreement is regarded as the worst of all worlds by Mr Gordon Brown, the Labour MP for Dunfermline East and Mr Dick Douglas, the Labour MP for Dunfermline West, whose constituents work at the Rosyth dockyard. Both are demanding a meeting with Mr Heseltine.

Mr Brown said: "The option proposed by Mr Heseltine's adviser, Peter Levene, is a gift to the private sector, offers no security of employment to the workforce and it prejudices our national interest. To carry out the retraining of the Polaris nuclear force on the model of a fast food franchise will create enormous problems for security."

Fifteen companies involved in ship repair work and a handful of other large firms, including GEC, are said to have been approached with a view to taking over the shipyard on a seven-year contract from 1987. They would not be responsible for investment in plant and equipment which would be paid for by the taxpayer.

Mr Brown, who has 8,000 constituents who work at the yard said that offering 12 weeks' consultation for such changes was a "farce". He dismissed suggestions that Mr Heseltine had fought off Treasury attempts at complete privatisation of the yards as a "camouflage" for the agency option which Mr Levene had put forward. Mr Brown is asking the all-party Commons Committee on Defence to investigate the government's refusal to answer questions about Mr Levene.

The announcement, which may be made on Wednesday, is likely to provoke protests from the Opposition and the unions, who believe that Mr Heseltine received a private report suggesting using naval ratings to carry out the work at the dockyards if the unions take industrial action.

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Dockyards ready to fight against privatisation plan

By Colin Brown, Political Staff

Unions at the Rosyth and Devonport dockyards are prepared for industrial action if the Government goes ahead with a proposal to put naval refitting into the hands of private contractors.

The unions have been told that they will be offered only 12 weeks' consultation about the proposal, which is due to be announced by the Secretary of State for Defence, Mr Michael Heseltine, this week, and that legislation to carry out the transfer of pension rights is to be introduced next year.

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£10 million solar power village pioneers the designs for brighter living



SUNSHINE HOME: One of Bourneville's houses.

By Anthony Tucker, Science Correspondent

BRITAIN'S largest experiment in harnessing solar energy to the people, the £10 million 300-house Bourneville Trust village nearing completion in Birmingham, went on show to overseas visitors at the weekend.

Since it is already demonstrating that with the right design Britain's cloudy skies are no barrier to substantial energy gains — and hence energy savings — the experiment is already regarded technically as a success.

Conceived jointly by the Bourneville Trust, Birmingham University, the EEC and the Department of Energy back in the mid-seventies, it is intended as a test-bed for a wide range of possibilities, from simple "passive" solar buildings to houses embody-

ing every possible solar gadgetry. The biggest disappointment so far — and one regarded with some amazement by the visitors — is the withdrawal of the Department of Energy from the project.

The first phases of the development were two blocks of flats for the elderly whose experimental systems, although expensive to monitor, have provided key design information as well as low cost hot water.

The village construction goes much more deeply into design possibilities of how to meet energy conservation and solar conversion needs in traditional buildings.

The weekend visit was part of a workshop run by the University as an arm of the International Solar Energy Society. Earlier it

revealed the uncertainties and the lack of conviction in Britain about the importance of embedding solar thinking in architectural design.

One of the problems is that the design procedures require techniques and information seen as unnecessary in conventional building and not yet widely incorporated in the training of architects or civil engineers.

It was explained in the workshop that one of the reasons for the relative scarcity of British applications for EEC support for solar building projects was simply the short supply of architects and designers with the necessary skills.

The sheer daunting complexity of the application documents was also condemned as a cause of reluctance. Economics also play a

part for example the cost of monitoring a test building often being higher than any other part of the experiment.

The Birmingham solar village will reach completion over the next two years largely because of EEC involvement. The Department of Energy is concentrating its support on "passive" solar buildings, where much can be gained at low additional cost.

But, as the workshop pointed out, this is no way to underpin a developing industry in solar systems.

Solar heating may be used in Lincoln Cathedral, where the oil-fired heating is so expensive to run that it is only switched on for important occasions. An approach for a grant has been made to the EEC.



8.30. MANN'S BEST FRIENDS.

Who wants to take sides in a home that could double for a madhouse?

In a new comedy series, Fulton Mackay plays Ordway, an ex-civil servant, who tries to bring order to this manic household. With reckless support from Barry Stanton as the landlord, Mr. Mann and Bernard Bresslaw as his demented aide.



5.30. I COULD DO THAT.

Are you a whizzkid who thinks he could run a business? Or do you think most youngsters couldn't run a bath?

Over the next six weeks we take four would-be entrepreneurs to visit young successful businesses and try to show them the ropes. The experience could decide if they'll ever be captains of industry.

WHICH SIDE WILL YOU BE ON TONIGHT?



9.00. END OF EMPIRE.

The heroes and villains of 1940's Singapore talk about the events that marked the greatest disaster and worst capitulation in the history of the British Empire.

The first of an epic series depicting the chaos of decolonisation. Would you stand for the National Anthem after tonight's episode?

4.50. ISAURA THE SLAVE GIRL.

Where will your sympathies lie? In this new series - of 1860's Brazilian slavery - Isaura is beautiful, well-educated and a white slave.

Yet she's treated like the daughter of the house.

When the son of the house returns from Paris, Isaura finds out how much of a slave she really is.



10.00. WOOLDRIDGE AT THE MASTERS.

Golf fanatic Ian Wooldridge will be capturing the euphoria or the tragedy - depending on whose side you're on - of this year's US Masters almost as soon as the winner has sunk the 18th. He then goes on to sample true Georgian hospitality as they're sinking them at the 19th.



KEEP YOUR EYE ON

White House optimistic as Congress moves to \$14m vote

Reagan puts full weight behind rebel call for cash

From Paul Himm in Washington

The Administration will today launch a final effort to secure funding for the Nicaraguan rebels.

The optimism among White House officials that Congress will agree to the funding is in sharp contrast to the mood barely a month ago when it was thought that President Reagan might decide to avoid a final showdown rather than risk a humiliating defeat.

Mr. Reagan will personally open the new campaign on his return from his Easter break with a speech to a meeting in Washington organised by a pressure group known as the Nicaraguan Refugee Fund. He will also hold talks during the coming week with key congressional figures.

The President last week called on Congress to release \$14 million earmarked for the Contras for humanitarian work and called on the Sandinista Government to open negotiations with its opponents within 60 days.

The call has been rejected by the Sandinistas. Some Latin American leaders welcomed the call without endorsing the plea for funds.

Administration officials said

that the White House now calculated that it already had a majority in the Senate in favour of releasing the \$14 million and was only six votes short of a majority in the House of Representatives. Congress cut off all support for the Nicaraguan rebels last year.

The White House based its optimism in part on the fact that a number of Democrats previously opposed to any kind of support for the Contras were now suggesting a compromise whereby the \$14 million could be distributed through international relief organisations, such as the Red Cross.

Officials said that the Administration was willing to offer concessions to its critics, including the dropping of the 60-day deadline for the opening of negotiations by the Sandinistas. Talks between the US and Nicaragua were broken off shortly before President Reagan began his second term last January.

Although officials stressed that the US was still concerned about Nicaragua's alleged role as a sponsor of leftwing insurgencies in Central America, the scale of its arms build-up, and its close ties with the Soviet bloc, they added that it was willing to be more flexible about the nature of the political system inside Nicaragua.

The Administration was said to be prepared to accept that the Sandinistas would continue to play the major role in the government of Nicaragua, with Mr. Daniel Ortega continuing as President, in exchange for moves towards bringing opposition forces into the political system.

Lima hit by dynamite attacks as polling stations open

From Mike Reid in Lima

TANKS and armoured cars took to the streets here yesterday as voting began in general elections which are expected to bring a swing to the left.

Less than 12 hours before the poll opened, the city was hit by a wave of terrorist attacks on Saturday night which are reported to have left three people wounded, two of them seriously. Five local offices of the right-wing Popular Christian Party, suffered dynamite attacks, while in the Andes, a polling station was bombed in the town of Cerro de Pasco.

Four armed guerrillas from the small Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA) took over a radio station here. They forced the staff to broadcast a cassette, interrupting an eve of poll message from the outgoing President, Mr. Fernando Belaunde Terry.

A poll by the US-based Spanish International Network predicted that the presidential candidate of the Social Democratic American Popular Revolutionary Alliance (Apra), Mr. Alan Garcia, would get 47 per cent of the vote.

The survey, conducted two days ago, indicated that the mayor of Lima, Mr. Alfonso Barrantes of the United Left, would come second with 20 per cent. The government candidate, Mr. Javier Alva Orlandini, would take 6 per cent of the vote, it said.

It is not clear whether the MRTA, or the larger Marxist Sendero Luminoso (shining path) guerrillas were responsible for the bomb attacks.

Two United Left militants are reported to have been killed in late night clashes with members of the leftwing Apra party. On Thursday night, an Apra militant was killed in a fight with United Left members while both groups were painting slogans in a Lima suburb.

Despite the eve-of-poll incidents, voting was taking place normally here, with armed troops guarding polling stations.



Peruvian soldiers stand guard as election cards are distributed

Honduran general warns plotters

Tegucigalpa: The armed forces chief said yesterday that the army was under pressure to mount a coup since a constitutional crisis started last month but vowed to guarantee democracy.

"Everyone wants to tell us what to do," Brigadier General Walter Lopez Reyes declared. "There are groups and individuals who want to pressure the armed forces to stage a coup. It will never happen."

He was speaking after the closing ceremony of tank exercises which form the first part of joint US-Honduran war games near the Nicaraguan border.

"There's nothing to be gained by a coup d'etat... we are going to make sure that the President lasts until the November elections," the general said.

The constitutional crisis flared when the 82-seat Congress voted last month to dismiss five Supreme Court justices for allegedly manipulating electoral law in favour of President Roberto Somoza Chonera, for polls scheduled for November.

Mr. Somoza, who is constitutionally barred from re-election, responded by bringing treason charges against the replacement justices and the 20 Congressmen who voted for the dismissal of their predecessors.

The local Roman Catholic Church earlier yesterday called for an end to the row, saying "the country's democracy was at stake."

A communiqué from the Episcopal Conference called on politicians to bury their personal quarrels and negotiate an end to the crisis.

Nicaragua claimed at the weekend that an American, Roger Patterson, was killed while fighting with rebels against government forces late last month, but police in Alabama said Roger Patterson was alive and in the US.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Regular summits proposed

THE Communist Party daily, Pravda, yesterday suggested that the Soviet Union ready its regular summit meetings as a way of improving relations with the United States.

It was the first recent mention in the Soviet press of regular summits as one way of ending the "Ice Age" in Soviet-American relations. Pravda took care to make the proposal contingent upon American desire for better relations, but reiterated a longstanding Soviet argument that the majority of Americans want better relations with the Soviet Union. This majority "understands that it is time to end the campaign of hatred toward the Soviet Union," Pravda said. — AP.

Doctor says life gives relief

EUROPE'S first artificial heart recipient, a 52-year-old Swedish man facing tax evasion charges, says he has no plans for the future. In written answers to journalists' questions, he said his strongest feelings were relief and fatigue. The director of his US-designed heart did not bother him, he said. "It's just like having an alarm clock on your bedside table."

A member of the team treating him at Stockholm's Karolinska hospital described the patient's feelings of relief as natural since he had been very close to death before the operation. — Reuters.

Basque attacks

THE BASQUE separatist group ETA has claimed responsibility for setting ablaze a cooling oil warehouse near San Sebastian last Friday. The fire spread to adjoining warehouses and caused almost 25 million damage, writes Jane Weller in Madrid. ETA is believed responsible for the bombing of a French bank in the Basque city of Legorreta yesterday. There were no injuries.

Pork cuts

CHINA has deregulated prices of live pigs and pork as part of a programme of price reform. A State Commodity Prices Administration spokesman said that the existing price system was "extremely irrational" and the prices of many commodities reflect neither their value nor the relationship of supply and demand. — Reuters.

Pastor gaoled

A SOVIET court has sentenced a Pentecostal pastor who sought to emigrate to a Soviet labour camp after convicting him of anti-Soviet slander and violation of religious laws. A source in Moscow said that Mr. Viktor Walter was tried last week in the Primorsky (maritime) province. — AP.

Bhopal claim

AN INDIAN state firm is claiming 240 million rupees (about \$17 million) from Union Carbide for production of gas which caused deaths in the Bhopal gas leak. The firm, Bhopal Heavy Electricals, claims that Bhopal plant suffered when workers were affected by the gas. — Reuters.

Gaoil crowding

A TANGANYIKAN remand prison is so packed that prisoners sleep sitting up. A gaoil official, Laurence Mfawa, told the government newspaper, the Daily News, that some prisoners had been waiting for 10 years for their trials to be completed. — Reuters.

Mafia arrest

SICILIAN police yesterday arrested a 20-year-old suspect in a bombing attempt at an anti-Mafia judge, at a mother and her twin sons instead. Officials in Trapani accused Vincenzo Cusumano, aged 34, of obtaining a stolen car for use in the attack. — AP.

Civilian rule

MARTIAL law in Pakistan will be lifted within the next few months as power is transferred from the military government to the new civilian administration, the Minister of Justice, Mr. Iqbal Ahmed Khan, said at the weekend. — AP.

Viet oilfield

THE SOVIET Union is reported likely to start commercial oil production off Vietnam in the South China Sea. Japan's Asahi Shimbun quoted US sources as saying that successful tests had been conducted by Soviet offshore teams. — Reuters.

Aid extended

BRITAIN has agreed to Kampala's request for a military training team to stay and help the Ugandan Army during a third year. Kampala said yesterday. The team had been due to leave in May. — Reuters.

FBI to indict 26 neo-Nazis on charges of violent crime

From Alex Brummer in Washington

The FBI's investigation of a violent neo-Nazi organisation, variously known as The Order and Silent Brotherhood, is expected to reach its climax today with the indictment of more than two dozen rightwingers in Seattle.

The neo-Nazis, who are allegedly responsible for murder and several armed robberies, are to be charged under the Racketeering-Influenced and Corrupt Organisations Act, which in the past has largely been used to bring organised crime figures to book.

The FBI chose this particular statute after it established in grand jury testimony that a series of alleged violent crimes — going back many years —

can be traced to the leadership of the Brotherhood.

The pattern for its activities was apparently set in a white supremacist, Mr. William Pierce, of Arlington, Va. Mr. Pierce wrote of a group of armed American Nazis, who overthrew the American Government and launched a nuclear attack on Israel.

Among the crimes outlined in the Pierce book were the murder of prominent American Jews and the corruption of the US currency.

The real group is alleged to have had some success in both these areas. It was allegedly responsible for the brutal murder of Mr. Alan Berg, a liberal radio broadcaster in Denver,

who was gunned down outside his station in a spray of automatic weapon fire by several of those under indictment.

The group allegedly engaged in counterfeiting with the hope of debasing the US currency. According to the FBI, the group believes that the Federal Reserve Board is under the control of Jews. The Silent Brotherhood is also said to have conducted armed robbery to finance its warfare against American Jews.

Mr. William Webster, the FBI director, says that The Order represents the most violent manifestation in modern history of the Racialist and Semite propaganda put out by organisations such as the Ku Klux Klan and the American Nazi Party.

Burning question

CAPE CANAVERAL: Scientists yesterday weighed the value of asking space shuttle Discovery's crew to try an orbital repair of a \$35 million US defence satellite which malfunctioned on launching at the weekend.

There is a possibility that the satellite's powerful booster rocket could fire at any time and possibly damage the billion-dollar shuttle.

At least four teams of experts were considering whether to ask one of Discovery's astronauts to take a spacewalk and try to operate a mechanical lever which is believed to have jammed when Leasat was rolled out of the shuttle's cargo bay. — Reuters.

Godfather of Mexican drug runners 'bribed 800 police'

From Peter Chapman in Mexico City

A man described as the "Godfather" of Mexican drug runners has claimed that 800 Mexican policemen were in his pay.

Sixty-year-old Ernesto Fonseca was arrested last week in a Pacific coast resort, at the home of a local police commander. He allegedly told investigators that he and another man, Rafael Caro, who was deported from Costa Rica a few days ago, had bought the services of 800 policemen in and around the centre of their drugs operations, the city of Guadalajara.

The capture of two alleged "kingspins" in the multimillion

dollar hard drugs trade between Mexico and the US market is an impressive success after years of accusations by US officials that Mexico was not doing enough. But Fonseca's claim has caused considerable embarrassment.

The extent of Mexico's role in the international drugs racket began to unfold in February, with the kidnapping of a US anti-drugs agent in Guadalajara. His body was found last month. The incident caused a sharp deterioration in cross-border relations.

Washington claimed Mexico was a main source of heroin and cocaine to rival Colombia and Bolivia. The US also alleged that the Mexican police were doing little to investigate

because too many of them were involved in the trade. The result has been that the Mexican police have stepped up their investigations, only to prove that the American allegations appear correct. One senior officer is alleged to have been paid more than \$200,000 by Caro in February to let him escape while under police guard.

Both of the alleged racketeers have denied involvement in the death of the US agent, although Fonseca has accused Caro of masterminding it. Caro has reportedly confessed to owning a huge stock of 8,900 tons of marijuana seized near the Texas border in November. Several thousand peasants were commandeered to grow it, as forced labour.

Party chief voted out

Rome: Controversy continued yesterday over a speech last week by the Pope that many interpreted as a vote for Roman Catholics to vote for the Christian Democratic Party.

The Pope's speech on Thursday did not mention any political party, but many Italian commentators said his intention was clear so close to May 12 local elections.

Yesterday, three days later, most Italian newspapers were still running editorials and long analyses of the address.

In the speech delivered to a convention of Italian clerics at Loreto on the Adriatic coast, the Pope said that it was the duty of Roman Catholics "to work to safeguard and reinforce Italian democracy."

He said that their intervention in public life "could not be manifested in a unified manner, especially in moments when the supreme good of the nation demands it."

The demand for unity was what caused some to believe he was calling for support for the Christian Democratic Party, founded after the Second World War with Vatican backing.

While Italy's largest party has continued close cooperation with the church, recent pontiffs have avoided partisan comments.

The Polish-born Pope, unlike many of his Italian predecessors, has remained largely aloof from Italian politics.

Rome's leftwing daily, Paese Sera, headlined its front-page editorial about the ambiguous remark: "The world according to Wojtyla: translating Polish."

It said the "painful part of the address is the gloomy conviction that outside the church no truth exists, while within the church truth is already contained."

Even the conservative Il Giornale di Milan, said the appeal for the Christian Democrats was clear in the speech "even if the party was not specifically cited."

Minister points to Muslim terrorists seeking revenge against the US Spanish bomb blast blamed on Jihad

From Jane Walker in Madrid

The Spanish Interior Minister, Mr. Jesus Barrio, said yesterday that it was most likely that a Muslim fundamentalist terrorist group was responsible for the Madrid restaurant bomb which killed 18 people and injured 82 on Friday last.

Mr. Barrio named the group as Islamic Jihad, Beirut-based Shiite terrorists.

A spokesman for the organisation is reported to have admitted to calling to news agencies that it placed the bomb, in revenge for a bombing last month in the Arab sector of Beirut which killed 92 people. The group is believed to have been responsible for a bombing in a crowded Athens bar recently which

killed and injured US servicemen.

The Descanso Restaurant was popular with servicemen from the US air base at Torrejon, only five miles away. But if the Americans were the targets, the bomb was timed to explode at 10.30pm, after the early dining hours of the Americans, and just after the restaurant had filled with Spaniards who traditionally eat late.

No Americans died in the attack although 15 were injured. The US embassy in Madrid issued a statement yesterday condemning the outrage and expressing sympathy for the bereaved families. Security has been heightened at the three American bases in Spain and the enclaves where

the 12,500 servicemen and their families live.

The bomb is the worst terrorist outrage in Spain since the civil war. A bomb placed near the main police station in Madrid in 1974 killed 12 people and injured 50, and in 1976, nine people died in a blast in a Madrid cafe.

Mr. Barrio said yesterday he understood that the explosion on Friday was caused by a home-made bomb, made up of a mixture of sulphur and potassium sulphate, a type rarely found before in Spain. It is believed that it had been placed in the ground floor cloakroom of the restaurant near the bar.

Because the butane and propane gas cylinders used in the kitchen at the rear of the building were found to be in-

fact, the possibility of a gas explosion was quickly ruled out.

Last year, Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility for the killing of two Arabs in Madrid and for the wounding of a Libyan diplomat in Madrid. Mr. Barrio said that he did not believe that there was any connection between the bombing and the possibility that Spain would resume diplomatic relations with Israel soon.

However, Islamic Jihad is only one of several groups, including the ETA Basque separatists and their leftwing allies Grupos, to claim responsibility for the bombing.

The Madrid governor, Mr. José María Rodríguez Colado, earlier said the blast might be terrorists against Nato targets.

Paris to stamp out terrorist group

Paris: The Interior Minister, Mr. Pierre Joxe, speaking after three bomb blasts rocked Paris at the weekend, pledged yesterday that police would crack down hard on extremist violence.

All three attacks were claimed by the outlawed Action Directe leftwing urban guerrilla group, which described them as anti-racist actions. There were no casualties. Mr. Joxe said in a statement that it was particularly shameful to try to justify these crimes by claiming that they were anti-racist. "The security services will pursue relentlessly their action to stamp out such crimes."

Two pre-dawn blasts on Saturday severely damaged an Israeli bank and a government immigration office. They were followed early yesterday by an equally destructive attack on the offices of Minute, an extreme rightwing weekly. Action Directe claimed responsibility for the attacks in a letter to a news agency. The letter demanded that the extreme rightwing National Front party be outlawed.

The National Front leader,

Russian patriarch celebrates Easter

Mr. Jean-Marie Le Pen, blamed the bombings on a growing campaign by a group called "SOS Racism" which aimed to make racism the centre of a national political debate. He said in a radio interview that the group, which last October coined the slogan "hands off my buddy" was responsible for setting public opinion against potential targets such as Minute, which supports the Front.

The Action Directe letter said that the latest attack yesterday was a protest against the "Zionist invasion" of Lebanon. Action Directe claimed responsibility three years ago for a bomb attack on the offices of Minute which it accused of fascist and racist propaganda.

A power transformer station was damaged in another blast near the southwest city of Toulouse and an anonymous caller told police it was an "anti-fascist action" to protest against a dance held there by the National Front on Saturday night. Two bombs also exploded last night in Corsica, causing serious damage to private houses, but no injuries, police said. — Reuters.



Patriarch Pimen of Moscow and All Russia holds the Orthodox Easter service in the Epiphany Cathedral, Moscow, yesterday.

مكتبة جامعة القاهرة

Friday April 15 1995

NEWS IN BRIEF

Regular summits proposed

1995 summit: The first summit of the G7 leaders was held in London last year. The summit was a success and the leaders agreed to meet regularly. The summit was a success and the leaders agreed to meet regularly.

Doctor says he gives relief

A doctor has said that he gives relief to patients who are suffering from a rare disease. The doctor has said that he gives relief to patients who are suffering from a rare disease.

Basque attack

A Basque attack on a ship in the Bay of Biscay has resulted in the death of a British sailor. The attack was carried out by a group of Basque nationalists.

Pork cuts

The government has announced that it will cut the amount of pork that is supplied to the armed forces. The government has announced that it will cut the amount of pork that is supplied to the armed forces.

Pastor govt

A pastor has been accused of being involved in a government scheme to provide financial support to churches. The pastor has been accused of being involved in a government scheme to provide financial support to churches.

Bhopal claim

A claim has been made that the Bhopal gas tragedy was caused by a leak from a gas cylinder. The claim has been made that the Bhopal gas tragedy was caused by a leak from a gas cylinder.

Coal crowding

A crowd of people has gathered outside a coal mine in the north of England. The crowd has gathered outside a coal mine in the north of England.

Mafia arrest

A man has been arrested on suspicion of being a member of the Mafia. The man has been arrested on suspicion of being a member of the Mafia.

Civilian rule

A civilian has been elected to a position of power in a country in the Middle East. The civilian has been elected to a position of power in a country in the Middle East.

Victim of

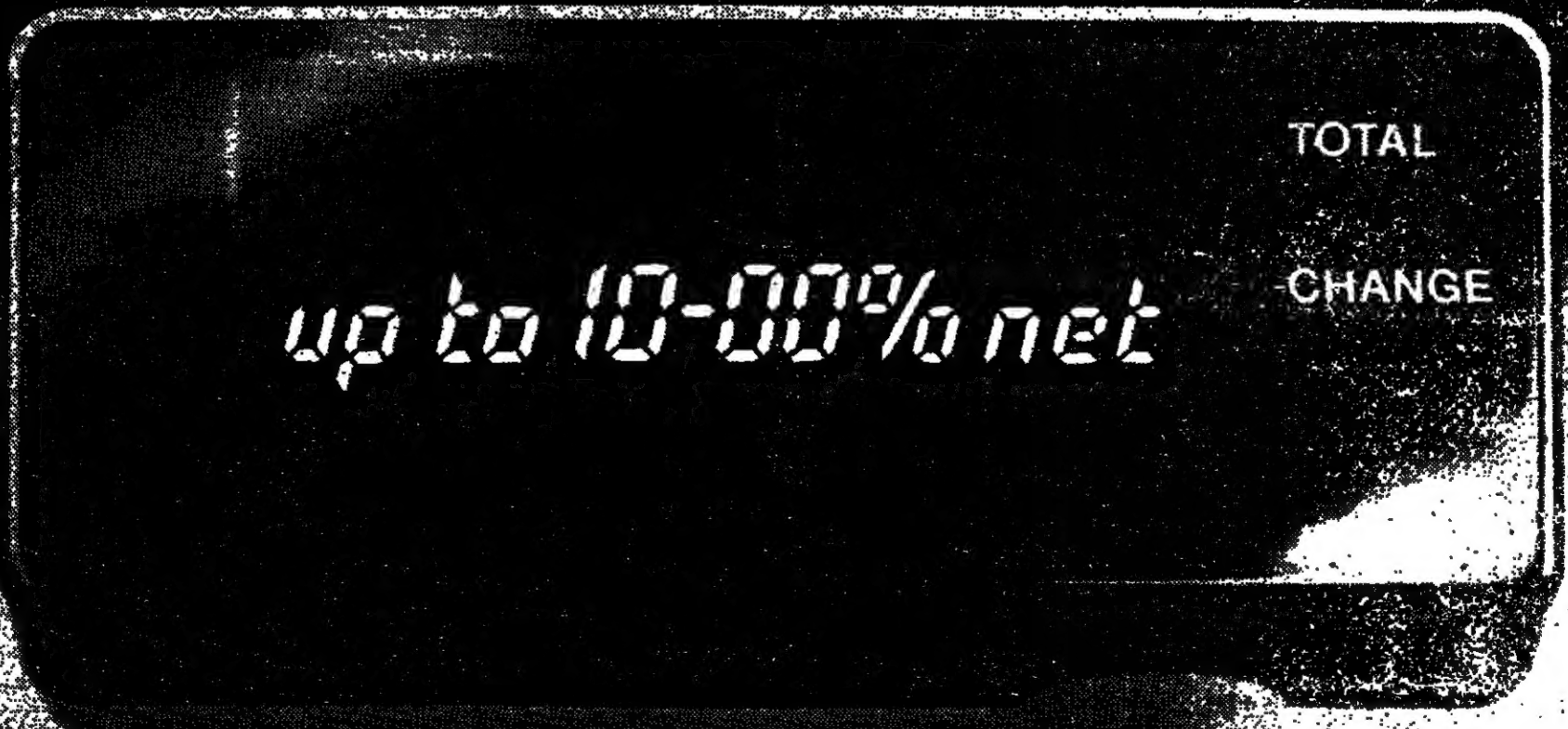
A victim of a crime has been identified. The victim of a crime has been identified.

And others

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ALL BUILDING SOCIETIES AREN'T THE SAME.



Cabinet vote angers Peres

From Ian Black in Jerusalem

A NEW AND potentially serious crisis loomed over the bipartisan National Unity Government last night after the Cabinet refused to authorise a visit to Egypt by the Minister Without Portfolio, Mr Ezer Weizman.

Mr Weizman, a close confidant of the Prime Minister, Mr Shimon Peres, was due to go to Cairo this week in what was billed as a private visit, but which was to include talks with President Hosni Mubarak and other Egyptian leaders.

Despite statements to the contrary, Mr Weizman was expected to try and make final arrangements for a summit meeting between Mr Peres and President Mubarak, by proposing a compromise to help solve the dispute about the future of the Gaza enclave south of the Israeli port city of Eilat.

The Cabinet voted by 10 to nine against approving Mr Weizman's trip, angering and surprising Mr Peres, who had earlier cleared the visit in advance with the Foreign Minister and Likud leader, Mr Yitzhak Shamir.

Mr Shamir and his Likud colleagues fear that foreign policy matters concerning the peace process and relations with Egypt are increasingly being taken out of their hands and run by the dovish Mr Weizman.

Mr Peres and Mr Weizman are known to favour a compromise over Gaza, moving towards the Egyptian demand for international arbitration, but Mr Shamir insists that the issue can only be evolved in the context of a "package deal" of all the outstanding bilateral issues between Cairo and Jerusalem.

Mr Shamir was seen here as using the episode as a trial of strength between the two components of the Government and as an expression of his dissatisfaction with the present state of affairs. The question of Mr Weizman's trip is expected to be resolved — one way or the other — by the 16-man inner Cabinet at a meeting today.

The independent leftwing MP, Mr Jossi Sarid, said last night of yesterday's cabinet decision that Mr Weizman should resign at once.

Fighting in Sidon 'at new peak'

SIDON: At least nine people were killed and more than 100 wounded in weekend battles that were the most violent since fighting between Christians, Muslims, and Palestinians broke out a month ago.

The fighting died down to occasional sniping yesterday afternoon, but shelling resumed just before dawn.

As the Lebanese civil war entered its eleventh year, artillery battles also erupted yesterday in the mountains near Beirut. The sound of exploding shells echoed across the capital for two hours and smoke drifted over mountain battlefronts where army troops and Christian militiamen face Druse-led forces.

State-run Beirut radio said shells landed in residential areas.

The Lebanese Prime Minister, Mr Rashid Karami, blamed Israel and a Christian militia for the clashes in and around Sidon. Mr Karami, speaking in his home town of Tripoli, said: "The (March 12) revolt coincided with the despatch of Lebanese Forces fighters to Sidon, and this led to the explosion of the situation there."

Mr Karami, who said last week he would boycott his own Cabinet until plans for the army to regain control were implemented, repeated charges that Israel was seeking to force Christians from villages east of Sidon to move south to a border strip.

The weekend also brought an attack that killed eight people in a Shiite village in the Israeli-occupied south and an Israeli raid on a Palestinian refugee camp in Tyre. — AP/Reuters.

Arafat 'seeks package deal'

JERUSALEM: A US Congressman who met the PLO leader, Yasser Arafat, last week said yesterday that the organisation appeared to be moving towards recognition of Israel.

It was also announced yesterday that the PLO council would meet in Baghdad this week.

Mr Thomas Petri confirmed before meeting the Israeli Foreign Minister, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, that he and four other congressmen met Mr Arafat in Amman. He said Arafat was "now interested in working towards some sort of formal recognition of Israel as part of a package deal." — AP.



Politicians bicker, people starve: Emergency famine relief arrives by camel in the remote Red Sea hills, east Sudan

List submitted to 15-man military council for ratification

Sudanese politicians agree on cabinet of technocrats

From Jonathan Steele in Khartoum

Sudan's alliance of political parties agreed yesterday to submit a list of independent, non-party technocrats as the country's new cabinet.

The decision was reached after several hours of argument between the three main parties and seven trade unions.

The list was discussed later with the transitional military council.

The decision represents the second concession made by civilian politicians since their combined protests and strikes two weeks ago led the army to overthrow Ja'far Numeiri.

The parties originally wanted to share power with the military by setting up a five-member supreme council in which three civilians would serve along with General Swareddahab and a representative of the war-torn south.

But because of their delay in coming up with a political programme of action on which all the parties could agree, the military went ahead and announced that supreme power would be vested in a 15-member military council which would hold power for a year. The cabinet will only have limited legislative powers.

One problem is the mushrooming growth of political parties who want a share of the new democratic action. At the latest count, there were 77 trade unions and 29 parties.

A senior spokesman for the alliance of parties said that he did not blame the military for the new democratic action. At the latest count, there were 77 trade unions and 29 parties.

The high command repeatedly asked us to come forward with a programme last Sunday and Monday, and we were slow," he said.

A sign of potential strain among the civilians has already surfaced. The Muslim Brotherhood held a rally on Saturday, urging the army to maintain the system of Sharf's law set up by Mr Numeiri in 1983. This allowed for such harsh punishments as the cutting off of thieves' hands and was particularly unpopular in the south.

Most parties opposed the move at the time and would like to revert to the system of dual civil and Sharf's law whereby only the devout who choose to be judged by Islamic religious courts would have to submit to them.

At the rally, the former chief justice, Mr Ahmed Bad Nour, who was dismissed by Mr Numeiri two weeks before the coup, called for his death because he stole public money.

The high command took an important step yesterday to try to stamp out corruption by abolishing the Military Training Corporation which allowed the army to import goods for themselves. According to Mr Swareddahab, the leader of the Ansar sect and the Umma Party, the corporation was "an attempt to institutionalise bribery in the army."

Reuter adds: It was not clear yesterday whether the civilians were united on the cabinet list.

A spokesman for the military said without elaboration that the civilian representatives had asked for more time to discuss formation of a caretaker government.

Diplomatic sources said that they were apparently still arguing over names for the proposed cabinet.

The proposed government would include three ministers from the south, where rebels have been battling government troops, they said. But differences appear to remain among representatives of former political parties, the sources added.

US providing 'secret' food supplies to two rebel-held provinces of Ethiopia

From David Ottaway in Washington

The United States has sponsored an unpublicised, year-long food supply programme in rebel-held areas of northern Ethiopia by way of the Sudan, and soon will ask the new Sudanese military government for permission to expand the effort.

Working through private relief agencies, the Agency for International Development already has approved 115,000 tons of food and 98 trucks for the operation.

The effort has become a delicate issue within the Reagan Administration because of its implications for already uncertain relations with pro-American Sudan and Soviet-backed, Marxist Ethiopia.

A new Khartoum regime has expressed a desire to improve relations with Ethiopia, and US officials fear that too much publicity about a food operation in cooperation with the US could lead the Sudan to scuttle the programme.

The US is also in delicate negotiations with the Ethiopian Government to allow the food to flow into the rebel-held territory through normal channels within the country. Officials said that they feared those negotiations could fail or, worse still, that the Ethiopians might declare the Sudan border-crossing a hostile act and attack the relief convoys or raid staging points in the Sudan.

The US operation may have implications for American contacts with other rebel groups. It holds precedents for Afghanistan and Nicaragua, a senior Administration official said. "It is legal to give humanitarian assistance to rebel groups across an international border."

Administration officials involved in US efforts to help the Afghan rebels and Nicaraguan contras are said to be watching the Ethiopian operation with particular interest.

There is now widespread agreement among US policy-makers and private volunteer groups involved in the Ethiopian operation that the situation in the two northern provinces of Ethiopia, Tigre and Eritrea, has similarities with the experience in Biafra.

Biafra was the short-lived, self-declared state in eastern Nigeria where a bloody secessionist struggle was fought in 1967-70. Private US volunteers became deeply involved there in trying to save starving non-combatants. The relief groups sided with the independence-seeking Ibo people.

Today, as then, a number of private groups are pressing the US Government to take a more active role in Ethiopia.

One of the main differences between the US Government and the Ethiopian Government is that it never became involved, even indirectly, on the side of the Ibo. The danger now is that the US may become entangled in the Eritrean conflict, on the side of the secessionist groups. Officials concede they cannot be certain the aid goes to non-combatants.

The main conduits for US assistance have been New York-based Lutheran World Relief, and Mercy Corps International, and Indurca, which has been moving some of its supplies through the International Red Cross. — Washington Post.



New drought: the Rajshahi district, 200 miles north of Dhaka, Bangladesh, has had no rain for four months and aid is scarce

Kabul invites tribal leaders to national security talks

Delegates not expected to include government opponents

From Alex Brodie in Islamabad

The Afghan regime has announced that a Loya Jirga, grand national assembly — the traditional gathering of tribal leaders from all corners of the country — will be held within the next 11 months.

The leaders are expected to represent only those on the government side. A long official statement, stressing that such an assembly had traditionally been called at "sensitive historic moments," was broadcast for two consecutive nights on Kabul radio.

The assembly, which is to be held by next March, would discuss ways of maintaining reliable peace and security, halting intervention by imperialist and reactionary forces, preventing Afghan blood being shed by Afghan, and implementing the revolution.

Among those attending will be party and government leaders, as well as authoritative representatives of workers, peasants, intelligentsia, and other workers of all nationalities, tribes and clans, credible clergy, and elders.

Loya Jirgas, which have been frequently called, are supposed to bring together the great diversity of tribes and nationalities within the country. The last such gathering was in December, 1979, just before the Russian invasion. Perhaps the most successful in recent times was called in 1964 by the King Zahir Shah to draft a new constitution.

"On the whole, the delegates appeared to represent the full range of social, political and religious opinion," the historian, Louis Dupree, who attended, said.

This was in contrast to the usual practice when anti-government candidates were screened out by the government. This is likely to be the case when Kabul holds elections to select delegates to its Jirga.

Observers believe that even if the regime wanted to hold a truly representative assembly, it would be impossible given the state of war throughout Afghanistan.

Kabul's announcement follows several others stressing the regime's commitment to traditional ways. Recently these seem to have been aimed particularly at the tribes — in the border zone between Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Hu rejects calls for press freedom

Peking: The Communist Party chief, Mr Hu Yaobang, has publicly rejected calls for more press freedom and insisted that the news media remain under tight party control.

In a major policy speech printed in the People's Daily, Mr Hu came down firmly against calls here for papers to be given greater financial and publishing independence. "The slogan of freedom of creation for literature and art cannot be copied mechanically for journalism," he said in the speech delivered to the party secretariat on February 8.

"All newspapers and magazines... should operate under the unified leadership of the party and follow the party's lines, principles and policies."

He attacked the unofficial tabloid newspapers which have appeared recently as spreaders of "spiritual pollution" — the catchphrase of a brief 1983 campaign that was suspended after disheartening officials used it to attack aspects of China's economic reforms.

Police watchful as Uitenhage buries its dead

From Anne Kavanagh in Johannesburg

Police police light-armed planes patrolled the skies as more than 50,000 mourners converged on a muddy stadium in Uitenhage at the weekend to bury 28 victims of South Africa's continuing unrest.

The service lasted for more than four hours and was interrupted by speeches and freedom songs.

Chief among the mourners was Mr Fikile Khobhe, the Uitenhage chairman of the United Democratic Front (UDF), which brother Lesile was killed in a petrol-bombing of their home last December.

Mr Khobhe gave his account of the events leading up to the incident at Lange on March 21, when police opened fire on a crowd marching to a funeral in KwaZulu. He said disturbances preceding the shooting — the death of many residents and the burning of funerals — had forced residents to decide that they would bury their dead despite any banning orders.

The police and the army kept away from the funeral service on Saturday, except for the presence of the aeroplanes. But in the town of Uitenhage, large numbers of police and soldiers were on guard to ensure that the mourners took the shortest possible route through the town. The road from KwaZulu to Uitenhage's main industrial area was closed.

The burials passed off without violence and in the stadium, the atmosphere was more festive than fearful. One speaker said: "This is no time for tears, because if tears fill your eyes, you will not be able to see the enemy."

The guest speakers were the president of the Alliance of Reformed Churches, the Rev. Allan Bousk, and the 1984 Nobel peace prize-winner, Bishop Desmond Tutu. Both are patrons of the UDF.

Bishop Tutu said freedom was not cheap. "The freedom we want is not a license to all, black and white in Southern Africa, going to be free, but many, many more are going to be detained, many, many more are going to face treason trials, many, many more are going to be banned, and many, many more are going to die."

The bishop condemned the "bank of bodies of 'collaborators'" that undermined the blacks' just cause. It was, he said, 25 years after Sharpeville, the South African Government had not developed a riot-control system that avoided killing people. In Poland and Northern Ireland, rioters were not killed as in South Africa.

The service appeared to bring to the surface the determination of the main churches in Uitenhage to stand firm alongside the community. The ministers who spoke made an unequivocal call to Christians to throw their weight behind the liberation struggle.

SA report urges sex law abolition

From Patrick Laurence in Johannesburg

A joint parliamentary report, due to table today, is almost certain to recommend the abolition of South Africa's laws prohibiting inter-racial sex and mixed marriages.

Compiled by members drawn from all three chambers of the tri-racial Parliament, the report will probably pave the way for legislation, likely to be passed before the end of the parliamentary session.

Coloured and Indian MPs, who have been criticised for participating in the Parliament, will be able to claim the credit for the reform. Both the coloured and Indian chambers have already passed unanimous resolutions calling for abolition.

Reuter adds: Rioting erupted again in the black townships at the weekend and at least seven people were killed in the Eastern Cape, police said. Scores of people were arrested and several injured as police used pistols, shotguns, and teargas against the rioters.

Crowds of up to 2,000 in the Cape, Transvaal, and Orange Free State stoned police and army patrols, set up barricades and threw petrol bombs. On Saturday night, two youths died after being wounded by black policemen who fired at a crowd of about 500 attacking his house near the Eastern Cape town of Uitenhage.

The unrest continued yesterday in KwaZulu, near Pietermaritzburg, a man staying in the home of a black policeman shot dead two youths who reportedly stoned the house.

Hanoi plans withdrawal 'by 1995'

From Colin Shaw in Paris

The beleaguered head of Unesco, Mr Amadou-Mahtar M'bozi, flew to Tokyo yesterday to urge the Japanese to carry out their threat to quit the organisation.

He is expected to argue that demands for reforms inside the agency have been met and to ask for more time to implement them.

Japan, the second biggest contributor to Unesco after the Soviet Union and the latest member state to threaten withdrawal, said in February that progress on reform was insufficient and warned that it would reconsider its membership unless more reforms were made by the end of the year.

The Senegalese director-general, under heavy fire from Western countries, insisted in an interview that there was no question of his resigning.

Unesco lost \$43 million in contributions this year when the US, which supplied a quarter of the agency's budget, withdrew from the 161-member organisation in December, accusing it of mismanagement, extravagance, and of being anti-Western.

The Geneva group of Western-orientated countries, which together pay 70 per cent of the budgets of the main UN agencies, last month demanded "significant" progress on reforms inside Unesco, including budget cuts, before a meeting next month of the organisation's executive board. This committee of 31 member states meets to consider progress on changes agreed last October.

Britain and Singapore have said they will follow the US out of Unesco at the end of the year unless changes are made. Britain will review the situation after Unesco's general conference in Sofia in October.

Britain wants fewer studies and more action-orientated projects, more effective use of other UN agencies, a shift of resources from Unesco's Paris headquarters, and the appointment of outside advisers.

Mr M'bozi said he would be very sorry if Britain, a founding member, left. This would jeopardise the organisation's future.

Hanoi: Vietnam plans to withdraw one-third of its troops from Kampuchea by the end of this year, the Vietnamese Foreign Minister, Mr Nguyen Co Thach, said.

In an interview giving the first detailed outline of Hanoi's military plans in Kampuchea, Mr Thach said that by 1987 Vietnam's troop strength there would be halved from the present level if no negotiated settlement were reached.

In 1990, two-thirds of the troops would be back in Vietnam and by 1995 Kampuchea's armed forces would defend the country alone with all Vietnamese troops withdrawn, he said.

Vietnam has not announced how many troops at present are in Kampuchea, but Western diplomats estimate there are up to 180,000 soldiers fighting guerrilla groups mainly along the Thai border.

Diplomats have also dismissed Vietnam's announcement over the past year of small-scale pullouts, including the withdrawal of 10,000 troops earlier this month — as troop rotations and a propaganda ploy.

Vietnamese troops first moved into Kampuchea in December 1978, toppling the Khmer Rouge in the next month and installing the Heng Samrin Government in Phnom Penh.

The Khmer Rouge are now linked with the Khmer People's National Liberation Front and supporters of Prince Norodom Sihanouk in a guerrilla coalition recognised by the UN as Kampuchea's legitimate government.

Mr Thach said that a total troop pullout was possible in 10 years' time because by then Kampuchea's armed forces would be trained and able to look after the country's own security.

Vietnam would welcome a negotiated settlement of the Kampuchea issue to speed up troop withdrawal, he said, but time was running out if the views of other countries in the region like ASEAN were to be considered.

He expected negotiations on a settlement between Vietnam and Indonesia, ASEAN's interlocutor with Hanoi, to start before the end of this year. — Reuter.

Tamil clashes with Muslim minority leave 13 dead

From Eric Silver in Colombo

Deteriorating relations between Sri Lanka's main minority communities, the Tamils and the Muslims, culminated at the weekend with the imposition of a dusk-to-dawn curfew in Akkaraipattu, in the troubled eastern province.

A week of increasing friction in the northern and eastern provinces has seen 13 people killed during the spring harvest new year in two separate incidents and about 50 houses burned to the ground.

Four Tamils and one Muslim died in the eastern town of Karaitivu, which is known as a hotbed for Tamil insurgents. Muslims do not support Tamil demands for a separate state.

A Muslim mob is reported to have attacked Tamil residents in retaliation for the murder of a Tamil in the northern province. Two of these Muslims were shot dead in a mosque, after allegations that they were police informers.

Fighting spread to neighbouring villages at the weekend in an area with a large population of Muslim businessmen and farmers. About 50 houses, belonging to Muslims and Tamils, were destroyed. A Government spokesman said yesterday that the security forces were trying to restore order.

Elsewhere in the eastern province eight Tamil gunmen died near the town of Akkaraipattu.

Government sources said they opened fire on a police patrol, then fled in a stolen jeep, which crashed off the road when the police gave chase. Four bodies were found in the wreckage. The other gunmen were said to have been shot dead when they came out firing at their pursuers.

The Tamils are Sri Lanka's second largest community, representing 12.5 per cent of the island's citizens. The Muslims come next with 7.8 per cent, most of whom are Tamil-speaking. The Tamil separatists claim them as part of their constituency, but most Muslims resist an such identification.

In its confrontation with the Tamils, the Government, dominated by the Sinhalese majority, has been careful not to alienate the Muslims. President Junius Jayewardene's foreign and transport ministers are Muslims.

A Muslim MP from the eastern province, Mr A. R. Munoor, said last night: "I am very worried about the deteriorating situation. The Tamil militants have recently been harassing Muslims, robbing them and demanding their educational institutions."

Mr Munoor insisted that Muslims wanted a united Sri Lanka. None of them, he said, supported Tamil demands for a divided island. "What we want most is a negotiated settlement."

كلمة الجلال

A question of balance on human rights

Zbyszek Zeman

THE LONDON headquarters of Amnesty International in the early 1970s cost about £24,000 a year to run, including the salaries of a few staff members. In the early 1970s, the annual budget is moving close to £1 million, and its offices will soon accommodate about 200 employees. Amnesty speaks to governments on equal terms, distributes glossy publications, and its staff make the round on the international organisations circuit. The Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to it in 1977.

From a small voluntary society, Amnesty has grown into a large non-governmental bureaucracy. From having been sharply focused on cases of individual prisoners of conscience, it conducts worldwide campaigns on behalf of whole groups of prisoners. Prisoners for instance under preventive detention, prisoners sentenced to death, prisoners put to torture are included in the campaigns. Whether the use of violence or not, the perennial Amnesty controversy, concerning the uses of violence and the right of governments to resist it, is fast fading from the organisation's memory.

Amnesty is a singular international agency in that it relies mainly on its voluntary membership for the execution of its policies. Its professional staff either services or policies the voluntary organisation. Staff spend most time on problems of political imprisonment.

Membership has continued to grow in Western Europe, and Amnesty took off in post-Vietnam America. Its lesser limbs reach into the Third World. At the last count there were five national sections in Africa; six in Latin America; and seven in Asia, including Japan. In its Third World outpost there is the danger that a national section would draw too close to the government, or provide the rest of the organisation with new prisoners of conscience. Amnesty and its International Executive Committee (IEC), drawn almost exclusively from the strongest national sections, pursues extension with missionary zeal. The imprint of an inward-looking organisation can be found now in almost everything Amnesty does. The Amnesty International Handbook represents an attempt to make the membership conform to the standards of the organisation.

It contains gruesome photographs of torture side by side with silly, cosy cartoons. On the one hand, it presents the picture of Amnesty as a well-balanced organisation abiding by sensible rules. On the other is the cruel outside world, replete with undifferentiated brutality. The Annual Report has become a repetitive catalogue of infringements of human rights. It is useful, but makes no attempt to differentiate between the regions it is divided into, nor between the countries within the regions. Amnesty prides itself on the quality of its information, but does not always behave as if it believed its own claim. In the past decade or so, the relative importance of the research department within the international secretariat has declined sharply. The department is becoming exhausted, because its members spend a lot of their time doing the wrong kind of work. One example arises from the Russian dissidents who formed an Amnesty group in Moscow in 1973.

The aftermath of that initiative is briefly noted in the annual report. In 1983, the chairman of the group was stripped of his citizenship, and its former secretary resigned. The report blandly suggests that the prosecution of the secretary had nothing to do with his previous membership of Amnesty. Dejected as it is, the group is still listed among Amnesty's national sections and groups.

It may be that Amnesty organisation and its activities

cannot be acceptable to the Russian authorities, and to those of Moscow's allies, in any circumstances. Some of Amnesty's members may prefer keeping it that way. There is little evidence that the organisation has addressed itself to the problem with any vigour. It is ridden the high tide of international interest in human rights. It has benefited, at least indirectly from the incorporation of human rights into Western policies. It is no coincidence that it entered the period of its fastest growth at the beginning of intense diplomatic bargaining between the West and the East at the end of 1973.

The sharpest controversy during those diplomatic negotiations centred on human rights. There was the accord in the summer of 1975 at Helsinki. Here, the Russians reluctantly accepted the political principle of human rights, and the West confirmed its acceptance of the political geography of post-war Europe. Soon came President Carter's novel use of human rights in American foreign policy. The powerful movement in the world moved into Amnesty's arena. Amnesty should have taken the credit, and paused for thought.

The cutting edge of President Carter's human rights policies was not poised over any particular countries. Under President Reagan, Paris of it have been



President Carter: Novel use of human rights

retained. It became what the Russians have always suspected it to be. Reagan's foreign policy spokesman has identified the struggle against the evil empire of communism with the struggle for human rights. America and Russia will perhaps achieve some accommodation on nuclear arms. In other areas, political confrontation between the super-powers will increase.

In the new international climate, Amnesty will find it even less easy to keep its tight balancing act going. In a world increasingly threatened by famine and disaster on the ground and by nuclear destruction from above, Amnesty occupies an uncertain middle ground. It has laid aside its previous, strong concern with the political uses of violence. The prisoners of conscience have been pushed off centre. It could usefully review the components which make up its claim to political impartiality, and could do worse than return to first principles.

Sooner or later, Amnesty will have to face the fact that its membership cannot be controlled from one centre. The international committee, the Red Cross organisations have drawn apart from each other over the years. Neither party has been the other's ally. It may choose to follow a similar route.

Zbyszek Zeman is a Fellow of St Edmund Hall, Oxford.

A theology for the liberation of tomorrow's Britain

DAVID JENKINS

There is involved in Christian faith a claim about reality, inherited from the prophets and as vindicated in Jesus. This is the claim that history can, must and will be related to the kingdom and community of God. But this is not an invitation to, or a licence for, any form of historicism. It does not admit or encourage the belief that history has one clear pattern or direction which is discernible, achievable or inevitable. To clasp a pattern on history or to claim that we have the esoteric knowledge which gives us the vital clue to history is to misunderstand both the God of Freedom and the Freedom of God and so to misunderstand the human predicament and the human contradiction. Our lives in history are not the substance of the Kingdom of God only, the material for it.

What is involved here is a profound question about our understanding of God. God is not the mastering of a vast construction activity, planned in computerised fashion from the beginning and moving on inevitably to a predetermined and pre-announced end. He (and She and It) — for how can gender pronouns be sufficient for the mystery of God? — is much more like a master Artist (and a mistress Artist). This mysterious Artist is committed in passion, righteousness and holiness, to an infinite creative activity, launched by love and seeking, making and feeling ways forward by freedom and in freedom. The movement and the struggle is through tremendous risks, to the fulfilment of a commitment, a vision and a hope which will establish a community and a kingdom commensurate with the initial love and the consequent cost and the subsequent promise. Nothing is certain, but everything is possible. Such commitment and constructive openness is the basic condition of freedom and love.

Faith of this sort in a God of this sort has an immediate bearing on the urgent practical issues of our society and our politics. For it calls for a recovery of nerve about the possibilities of politics and the possibilities of progress in our society. This is because such a faith sets us free from the determinism and despair of dialectics and from the apathy of randomness and powerlessness. If our lives in the world are open to God then we need not be trapped in a dialectic, or lost in randomness.

Yet these are the only alternatives which seem to be presented in this country at the moment. We are caught in a politics of confrontation which is shaped (whether consciously or unconsciously) by a slogan or two from vulgar Marxism. Everything is to be understood and dealt with in terms of conflict and power struggle between the class of capitalist individualists on the one hand and the class of collectivised wage earners on the other. This view is taken as much by the Right as by the Left.

The attempt to construct a Welfare State which was entered into so enthusiastically after the 1939-45 war has run into acute difficulties and many disappointments. These difficulties and disappointments are diagnosed by the Right as being the inevitable consequences of attempts at Socialism. The malaise of the Welfare State and the inability of this country to break out of its economic stagnation are seen to be symptoms of the same disease as holds Eastern Europe in its conditions of tyranny and inefficiency. This is the disease of Socialism which destroys economic efficiency, innovation and advance.

Before this became evident and in the euphoria and relief of the immediate post-war period, socialism was seen as the way forward. Indeed, at the height of the Socialist enthusiasm and fervour, it was held that "there is only one Way Left." This way has proved a dead end. It has led to neither freedom nor economic expansion nor social and industrial

flexibility. The evident failure of "Only One Way Left" has now made it clear, so it is firmly believed and preached, that "there is only one Way Right." So there is no realistic alternative to the new conservatism and anyone who suggests there is, is a romantic, an incompetent, a sentimentalist and a wet.

But this is simply vulgar Marxism in reverse. The Marxist doctrine speaks of the spurious freedom of the bourgeoisie being at the expense of the real freedom of the workers, which freedom is alone universalisable in the eventual classless society after the withering away of the State. The new Right have diagnosed and faith which is the mirror image of this. The spurious freedom which is to be resisted is that of the Socialist collectivist, who has been attempting at the expense of the true freedom of the bourgeois individualists. It is this freedom which is alone universalisable after the market has been liberated to work its wonders and there emerges the freedom of a property owning democracy while the State has been reduced to the absolute minimum.

These two myopic and mirror-image views of the world now dominate such political thinking as there is. And apparently mesmerised all those (almost certainly the majority) who do not find either view convincing or hopeful, not least because they are really one view and feed on one another in sustaining their respective claims to be "realistic." If you view the dialectic from the Right then the miners are to be utterly defeated for they represent the shock troops of militant socialist workers, as is evidenced by their being led by a militant revolutionary. Any attempt to suggest that there are human and communal factors independent of this and mixed up in this is dismissed as an utter failure to face up to the realities of power and the urgent need to prevent revolution.

The Bill, reasonably enough, is aimed at surrogacy deals negotiated by commercial agencies. It creates a new offence carrying up to three months imprisonment or a fine of £2,000 for participating on a commercial basis in any activity involved in the making of a surrogacy arrangement. Trans-Atlantic baby farmers like Ms Harriet Blankfield will henceforth find Britain stony ground, unless they are prepared to bear children for love and not money.

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any way be dominated by Marxism. We must work out our own liberation theology, related to our needs and to what we can discern through seeking to be faithful to the God of the prophets and the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. The main thrust of this liberation theology will, I am clear, include the following.

We must resume our search for progress in the direction of justice. Increase of democratic participation and the organisation of systematic and social caring. To give up the central concerns of the welfare state and the Beveridge Report because we have run into difficulties is sheer faithlessness and inhumanity. To return to the ethics of 19th century entrepreneurial individualism is either nostalgic nonsense or else a firm declaration that individual selfishness and organised greed are the only effective motivations for human behaviour.

Of course we must be realistic about sin. Romantic utopianism which supposes their own common destiny makes the disastrous mistake of rooting all human failings in our social and economic structures, and ignores the role of our often selfish and grasping heads and hearts and spirits. But to promote a materialistic market-orientation to human social progress is to make an equally destructive mistake about the possibilities and needs of men and women and to turn one's back on real political and social progress which has been made. Realism about sin should not lead to cynicism about altruism and justice or pessimism about the possibilities of collective organisation and communal caring.

In the name of the God of the Bible and of Jesus Christ we must challenge this and confront it. We must admit that the way forward is neither obvious nor easy but in the name of God and for the sake of our humanity we must insist that we cannot go backward into a 21st century version of the 19th century. That way destruction awaits us.

Secondly, we must insist on the urgent reality and relevance of the judgment of God. To ignore the poor or to claim that they cannot be counted into society until we have made more money or that we must lay greater burdens on them to ensure that they are more ready to work at any cost is morally questionable. Prudentially dangerous for how many take for how long? and a deliberate declaration of no sympathy or compassion with their plight. A society which does such things deliberately and refuses to recognise that

The Bishop of Durham: Nothing is certain, but everything is possible. Picture by Denis Thorpe

If you view the dialectic from the Left then the miners are the heroes of the revolution and the police are the shock troops of bourgeois repression. Any attempt to suggest that there are, independently of this and mixed up in this, urgent and difficult questions about obsolescence, economic recession and wealth production, flexibility and the communal and personal stresses of change is dismissed as an utter failure to face up to the realities of power and the urgent need to promote revolution.

That we are, at any rate for the moment, trapped in the dialectic, understanding is evidenced by the current embarrassment and ineffectiveness of the "soft" Left and the "wet" Right. Social Democrats, whether in the Labour Party or outside it, often seem to behave as if they had at least a sneaking feeling that the hard Left are the only real and realistic activists. At least they cannot be challenged head-on.

Similarly Conservatives with a sense of the strong Conservative traditions for corporate caring and an organic approach to many social problems seem hardly to have the courage of their convictions and a sneaking feeling that the Marxist monetarists are the only realists. This means more and more people who feel that the dialectic, whether viewed from the Right or from the Left, is the only way forward. The dialectic is the mirror image of this. The spurious freedom which is to be resisted is that of the Socialist collectivist, who has been attempting at the expense of the true freedom of the bourgeois individualists. It is this freedom which is alone universalisable after the market has been liberated to work its wonders and there emerges the freedom of a property owning democracy while the State has been reduced to the absolute minimum.

All this shows how urgent it is that we in this country should develop a liberation theology of our own. This should be a theology which should be developed by struggling, working and experimenting to develop an understanding of the God of freedom and the freedom of God which effectively related the biblical tradition of this God to the actual state of affairs in this country and thus helped both in renewing faith in God and also in renewing our politics.

We need to rediscover that we were not mistaken when we committed ourselves, with a considerable degree of consensus, to working out a Welfare State which would substantially contribute to setting people free from unnecessary ill-health, hopeless poverty and acute want and which would make some movement, however slight, along the path to more justice, more caring and less thoughtlessness and ignored exploitation.

While British liberation theology takes shape, the diagnoses of Marxism very seriously, it will not in

any way be dominated by Marxism. We must work out our own liberation theology, related to our needs and to what we can discern through seeking to be faithful to the God of the prophets and the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. The main thrust of this liberation theology will, I am clear, include the following.

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that is what it is doing, is a society which is tearing itself apart and heading for turbulence and disaster. Such a society can be no base for the learning and experimenting we have to undergo together to find a viable way forward into an uncertain and pretty tough future.

To progress we shall need all our personal and communal resources as well as all our economic resources. To develop these resources, not least the economic ones, every effort has to be made to combat attitudes, events and statistics which suggest that the substantial minority of our fellows are second or third class citizens or not even citizens at all.

To recognise that our society is under judgment for what it is doing to steadily increasing numbers of those who are excluded from the benefits enjoyed by the majority, is not to know at once what is to be done about it. It is however to recognise them as citizens along with us and to commit ourselves to conscious, explicit and shared efforts to develop our common good and multiply our common resources. It is also to acknowledge the urgency of this judgment and to challenge the complacent enjoyment of jam today by some, when for others there is no promise even of jam tomorrow.

Thirdly, a liberation theology will search for ways of innovation, experiment and risk. For example, trade unions will have to risk new forms of wages, flexibility and new forms of work sharing. Management will have to risk new forms of participation and of limitation of privileges and salaries for themselves and their directors. Many unthinkable things (eg maximum and minimum wages) will have to become thinkable, including probably government risks over decentralisation and regionalisation.

Fourthly, liberation theology will have to work at building up communities of endurance around a celebration of the gospel of God who is committed to our world, our society and our future for the sake of His Kingdom. For it is certain that we shall have much to endure, including uncertainty, turbulence, violence and people feeling that there is no hope and no way forward. In God and under God this is not true, but sometimes the only way of fighting through to a way forward will be communities of endurance who can hope against hope, as the prophets did.

This is an edited extract from the Hibbert Lecture, delivered on Radio 4 last night by the Bishop of Durham, the Right Reverend David Jenkins.

OUT OF COURT

Geoffrey Robertson

THE Government's latest attempt to make people good by Act of Parliament is the Surrogacy Arrangements Bill, which receives the second reading in the House of Commons today. It responds to one recent and commercialised case by seeking to outlaw profiteering American-style recruitment agencies, and is to that extent welcome. But it contains a number of objectionable features — strict liability,

reversal of the burden of proof and absence of any right to jury trial — and as drafted it poses problems for professionals who may be moved to assist justifiable surrogacy arrangement.

Surrogacy can, in exceptional cases, provide an acceptable means of relieving infertility. Where a woman cannot or should not carry children as a result of medical condition, such as heart disease or womb defect or proneness to miscarriage, the aid of AID and a willing surrogate may produce a wanted child. A woman with a functioning ovaries but a damaged womb can achieve children which are genetically hers as well as her husband's after laparoscopic or ovum recovery, and embryo transfer to a surrogate. Such cases may be rare, but they provide the exceptions which disprove any rule of law designed to suppress surrogacy services altogether.

The Bill, reasonably enough, is aimed at surrogacy deals negotiated by commercial agencies. It creates a new offence carrying up to three months imprisonment or a fine of £2,000 for participating on a commercial basis in any activity involved in the making of a surrogacy arrangement. Trans-Atlantic baby farmers like Ms Harriet Blankfield will henceforth find Britain stony ground, unless they are prepared to bear children for love and not money.

The Bill does not incarnate private surrogacy arrangements: men may negotiate direct with potential surrogates and offer a fee for their services, but both parties must negotiate without the advantage of paid professional advice. The doctor or lawyer who assists in such arrangement or counsels either party to it would commit an offence. In this respect the Bill condones to

amateurish or exploitative "do it yourself" arrangements in an area which, if it is to be explored at all, should at least have the benefit of full medical, legal and counselling services.

This is the major problem with a piece of legislation hastily designed to remedy one particular abuse, without making any provision for the circumstances in which surrogacy arrangements may be justifiable. It would be possible to draft an amendment to permit those contemplating legitimate surrogacy arrangements to have the paid assistance of qualified professionals. But it would be much more satisfactory to spell out the circumstances in which such arrangements would be legitimate: for example, only in cases of infertility and subject to safeguards such as medical supervision, genetic screening of the surrogate, and adequate counselling. As the law stands, it is

likely that any attempt to enforce a surrogacy contract would fail on the grounds that it was contrary to public policy. Since Parliament is dealing with the subject, it could determine that any such contract would be void unless it were drawn up by approved agencies requiring agency provided for the right of the surrogate to change her mind and keep the child (if it were genetically hers) and made provision for the surrogate to receive adequate counselling and payment of expenses and an appropriate fee. In the exceptional cases when surrogacy arrangements are justifiable, it is undesirable that they cannot be governed by a valid contract.

There is little prospect, however, that Parliament will be prepared to think through the problem further than a ban on commercial agencies, although there will doubtless be back-bench attempts to amend the Bill to

ban surrogacy arrangements altogether. But whatever the hostility to commercial surrogacy, it should not be permitted to justify the Bill's breach of some basic standards of fairness.

For example, several sections reverse the burden of proof. Instead of requiring the prosecution to prove essential elements of the new criminal offences, the onus is placed on the defendant to prove that he did not know that payment had been made, or made in respect of a surrogacy arrangement, or that the body of which he was a member was engaged in providing surrogacy services. These are all matters which the police should have investigated before any proceedings are brought, and to permit a prosecution to be launched without such evidence is to put innocent people at risk of conviction by obliging them to prove their innocence.

There is a particularly oppressive clause which imposes strict criminal liability on newspaper proprietors and editors who unwittingly publish advertisements "containing an indication (however expressed)" that surrogacy services may be available. While an offence of "knowingly" publishing such advertisements may be warranted, the Bill imposes personal liability on editors even when they have no idea that some ambiguous advert has mistakenly slipped into their classified columns.

Radio and television executives must at least know the real purport of the advertisement before they can be convicted, but the ban on any mention of surrogacy advertisements extends to referees in news and current affairs reports. Absurdly, if Checkpoint discovered an illegal surrogacy service advertising in the Times, and reported the

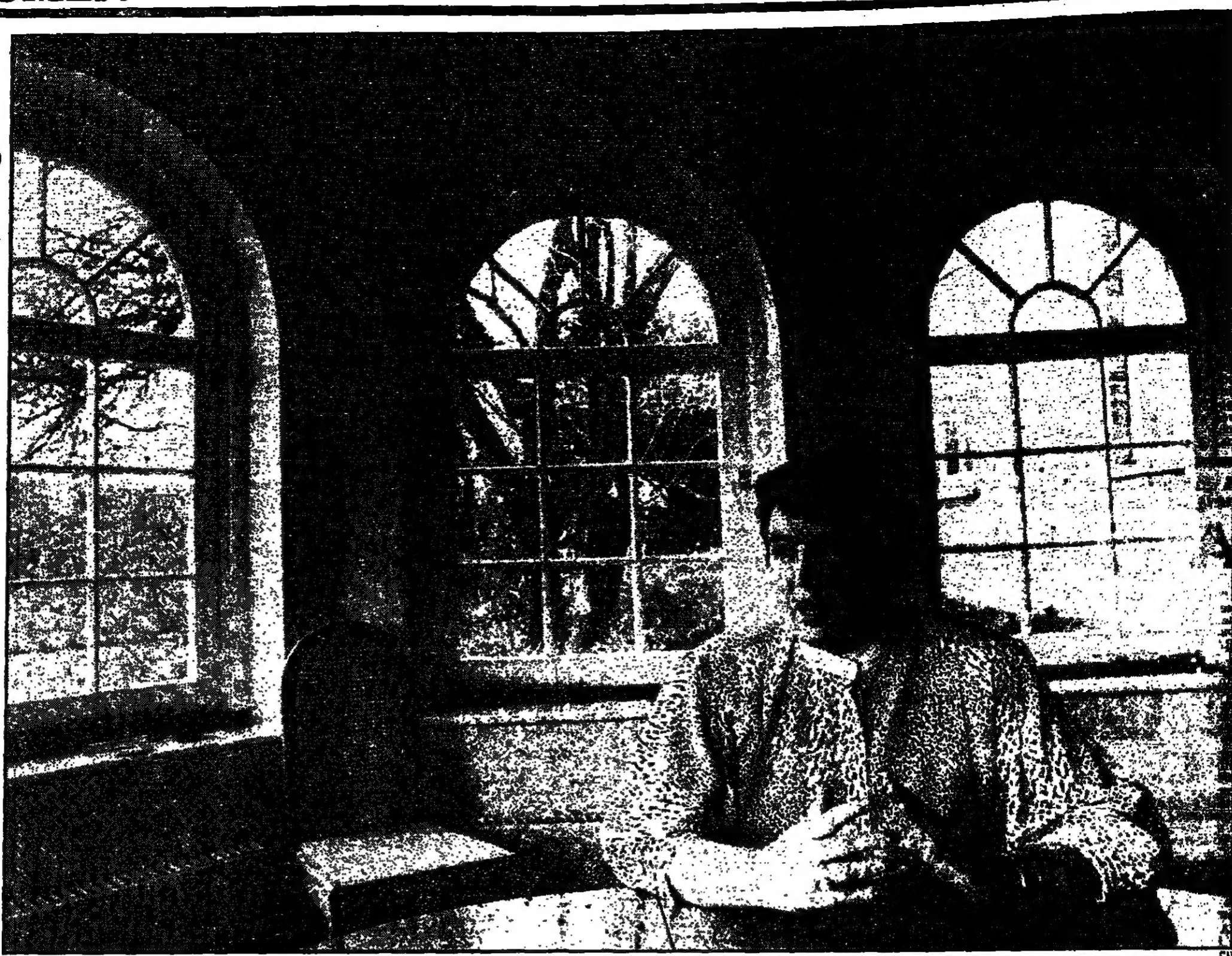
words of the advert in the course of exposing it, then both Roger Cook and Charles Douglas-Horne would be guilty of an offence.

The Surrogacy Arrangements Bill is, finally, yet another example of the Government's determination to avoid jury trial for controversial offences. The jury option is available as of right whenever the maximum punishment is set at more than six months: the period chosen in the Bill is Three months. Even so, the Government could still make special provision for jury trial, a mode particularly appropriate for deciding questions of fact where distinguished reputations may be at stake. Its reluctance to abide by the verdict of twelve good men and women and true is the surest indication of lack of confidence in its new legislation.

Geoffrey Robertson is a barrister and is editor of the *Out of Court* column.

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The computer can do more to free women than the liberation movement. And Steve Shirley is proving it. Her company employs 1,000 people, almost all of them women, and half the women with children under school age. They work from home, in hours to suit the individual. And unlike most other home workers, they are not sweated labour: they are both highly skilled and well paid



BIG TIME women entrepreneurs are a scarce commodity. Those who do exist mostly started their companies in a small way, building on traditional women's skills in fashion, cosmetics, shops, or secretarial services. There was Mary Quant, or Anita Roddick of *The Body Shop*, or dancer Debbie Moore who founded Pineapple Studios. But Steve Shirley plunged into big time when she started F International, one of Britain's largest independent computing consultancy and software companies. She employed 600 people and had a turnover this year of over £7 millions.

Her company designs specialised computer programs for businesses of all sizes. It has developed a wiring system for a British Aerospace plane, a system used by the fleet in the Falklands, another for controlling Lyons bakeries, a part of the flight box recorder for Concorde, a stock control system for Mothercare, a program for monitoring the inside of sewers, another for Wells to treat salmonella to operate on their grounds, another for scheduling Tater and Lyle delivery vans, a program giving benefit entitlements for Citizens Advice Bureaux — and much more.

Ninety-four per cent of the people who work for F International are women — over half of whom have children under school age. All work at home, in their own flexible time to suit the needs of their families. The brilliance of Steve Sauer's system is based on teaching the skills that are wasted when women are forced to leave work to bring up children. There is a great skill shortage in these upper echelons of business analysis and computer programming. Half of their employees have degrees, and the other half are of degree standard.

Highly trained women are pushed out of all kinds of careers by the rigidity of

office hours, and traditional career structures. Yet there is no reason why almost all office-based work should not be conducted from home in hours to suit each employee. Furloughed women are offering skilled men at home not just a job but a chance to overcome the difficult years with young children, but a proper career. Most of them stay on once their children are at school and they could go back to office-based work. This is the hi-tech future often talked about but rarely avoided by most big traditional office-based companies.

"People are so resistant to change," says Steve Shirley. The skill in her business is in getting people to welcome innovation. "Anyone can produce an efficient new system for a company—but it has to be effective, and that means people have to want to use it. They can zap any system they don't like." Her all-female teams of experts are less threatening and more sympathetic; better, she says, at understanding how to get people to feel enthusiastic about a new system in a company.

Steve Shirley points to all the advantages of hi-tech. "We get more work per hour out of our employees, as they concentrate hard in bursts

when they are at their most creative." There are far fewer overheads. "Teams work together on projects, under a project manager who supervises and co-ordinates the program they are devising for a particular client, communicating by telephone, not meeting in an office."

Traditionally, home workers have been the most exploited of all. The very term summons up images of women packing Christmas cards, glueing paper crackers, or knitting sweaters for a few pence an hour. But these women, who must work a minimum of 20 hours a week, are among the highest earners in their field.

Steve Shirley has just come back from California, where she saw new housing estates in Sacramento, especially designed for people who expect to spend their lives working at home. What used to be called an office or a study in an upmarket house is now called a teleport in real estate jargon where people sit at the computers and word processors with modems attached that keep them in constant computer contact with their employer.

Steve Shirley is one of those entrepreneurs for whom personal and business

success is not enough. She is impatient, constantly seeking ways to use her own experience to influence others—teaching others how to start up, persuade, and govern—and to make it easier and encouraging women into new endeavours. She is to be found on many government committees, has been awarded the OBE and is now generally regarded as the best person to advise Lord Young, the Cabinet Minister with special responsibility for employment. The first time she was invited to Number 10 she was introduced to the lady by a man, and asked him who he was: "The name's Thatcher," he said, and she blushed.

She is now 51, and she came into computing in its earliest days. Well, perhaps not quite. In the boardroom of the head office in Chesham, there is a portrait of Ada Augusta Byron, Countess Lovelace, Byron's daughter, a mathematician who worked as personal assistant to Charles Babbage, inventor of the first computer, or analytical engine as he called it. She was the first woman into computing.

Steve Shirley came to England as a child refugee from pre-war Germany and was educated in grammar schools in Oswestry and Birmingham. She went straight from school into work at 18 as a scientific assistant at a Post

Office research station. There were few women working there. After a year or two she decided to get a degree in maths the hard way through night school and a day release course. Calculators and computers were being researched there at the time, and she worked on **ERNIE**, the premium bond computer. She also worked on early electronic telephone exchange. It was that, and early work on radar, that led to the development of the modern computer.

Her husband was a physicist in the Post Office. She left as soon as they got married, influenced by the old Civil Service principle that it is unwise for husband and wife to work in the same place. She went to work for ICL in software development for an early computer, where she found herself rapidly moving from the purely technical into the managerial in

charge of teams of 15 and 20 people. All those she was now working with were men, and she felt compelled to show she was as good and as tough as them. She worked nights, although being newly married it was destructive of her family life. "I also used to wear grey suits so that I could hide amongst them. But I've grown out of that now. No more grey suits," she says. *Though she still calls herself Steve, not Stephanie.*

Then she had a child and found that it is almost impossible to compete with men on equal terms within the rigid hours and demands of life in a conventional office. "But of course I could see that software development doesn't require on-site work in an office. I decided to freelance, and to gather a team around me to work together from home."

Since then her team has grown to 1,000, and on an exponential curve, is soaring upwards faster and faster. She used to operate a profit sharing system for employees which she says did not work well, and is now turning it into a share ownership scheme. The company has subsidiaries all over Europe, Scandinavia and America, an export drive driven by her own need to feel useful and to break new ground as much as a desire for profits as easily gained at home.

In spite of her confidence, she remains startled by her own success. "I'm completely astonished at myself," she says. "All my family, both parents, my sister, my husband, my in-laws, were all in public service, all civil servants. I never thought of starting my own business, never considered myself an entrepreneur."

Now she sets out to teach others how to do it. "Schools and university careers teach-

ers never prepare people for that option. It's all a "job" working for someone else," a profession. They have no knowledge about how to start their own business and set up on their own. She looks at the businesses that could be run in the same way. "Publishing, advertising, public relations, graphics, technical writing, translating, catering, beauty, sport, selling, franchise," she lists. "She is impatient with schools that fail to teach the most basic book-keeping. She is angry with teachers who make book-keeping—even one person a nightmare of paperwork, and with a tax- and insurance system that thrives on people into the black."

economy through red tape.
 Job-sharing, flexibility, and
 part-time work are the hope
 for the future, she says.
 People need work that suits
 their lives, and she has
 shown how that can be made
 to pay all round. Companies
 need that flexibility in their
 own labour force, so they can
 command more work at busy
 times, and less at slack times.
 She makes it sound easy
 and perhaps it is indeed
 easier than most conservative
 companies will admit.

F International, Berkhamsted, Bucks, is growing apace, anxious to recruit from all over the country, and is looking for people to work at home with at least four years' experience in the industry.



Asexual servant

Whitehall hopes to banish sexism from its rule book. Nan Bile's reports

THON, Rey, Hesh and Hir — not characters in a space fiction television serial or a Steven Spielberg big screen epic, but non-sexist pronouns developed and used in the United States (where else?). Across the Atlantic, some

of our American cousins have been concentrating their minds on ways and means of advancing the cause of the post-Pankhurst, non-violent movement towards equality. The little words above are some of the suggestions taken up.

A small Whitehall team has been looking at this area, too. The four volumes of information on the subject of mail come in the terms and conditions of the employment of civil servants. Known as the Code and Guide, the title of this series is somewhat misleading. It is Service Pay and Conditions of Service Code and Establishment Officers' Guide.

The Code is an open document in four volumes setting out the rules and regulations available to all staff and the Guide — in three volumes — gives guidance for managers. Both contain language which is formal, bureaucratic, legalistic and somewhat over- and predominantly masculine.

Senior managers in the Cabinet Office (Management and Personnel Office) initiated a series of seminars after much criticism from staff, departmental managers and from a judge at an Employment Appeal Tribunal about difficulties finding staff to perform the job. In addition, the seminars, understood, advice relevant to immediate problems. The review is intended to support changes climate related to the Financial Management and Personnel Work (greater responsibility for local managers), the Plain English Campaign and Equal Opportunities.

Tony Phillips, the assistant secretary who heads the management team, attracted to the idea of returning to the pre-

nineteenth-century practice of using "they," "them" and "their" as singular pronouns. He was on his own here, outnumbered by the other members. Famous users included Caxton, Lord Chesterfield, and Shakespeare.

In its quest for information to help with the "re-think" the team consulted many large organisations outside the Civil Service with the help of the Institute of Personnel Management. They found that most of them kept centralised personnel rules and procedures and that efforts were made to keep the language in which this guidance is written simple and non-existent.

The American suggestion did not appeal to the MFO team — the members could not see them fitting easily into the Civil Service culture and it was hard to discern when each was used. They were not attractive. They felt clumsy, "he/she," "us/and himself" and "she."

In the end the criteria adopted by the team boiled down to these: Do not use honorifics, "masculine" terms like "man-hour," second person plural forms, second person singular rather than third person singular, passive voice if all else fails and, where examples are an aid to clarity, after-

responsible for the basic material, urged to amend their contributions to the text of the Code and Guide, assisting conversion of existing material difficult — especially if it is enshrined in long standing agreements. Old habits are dying hard and sometimes reluctant. On the right side those people drafting new material find the use of the new criteria very easy.

Tony Phillips' team is quite confident of eventual success but would welcome (any) sensible and constructive advice.

هكذا من الاصل

Meet Katherine the great bo-ah constrictor

Heppburn was a neurologist and evidently not a man who believed in letting his children get on his nerves. When his daughter's conversation at table irritated him, he would get up and hit her for being a bore. Or, as she pronounced it, being Katherine Heppburn, "a bo-ah".

"It was a lesson she did not hesitate to pass on when necessary... Peter O'Toole? Yes, we had a bit of a row, but he was a bit of a bo-ah. He should be hit quite often. It improved him. Peter admitted that."

This excellent early training means that everything she says is worth listening to and if she has nothing to say, she says nothing. If that show guests were struck like guinea when they were bo-ahs, it would do wonders for the quality of life and the stan-

dard of TV. Until then, we must be grateful for Miss Heppburn. Her brilliance and her bones and the cheerful chance that she may at any moment haul off and hit Clive James made her vivid TV.

Clive James meets Katherine Heppburn (LWT) — surely that should be Katherine Heppburn — was a forceful and fascinating interview. It was like a conversation with a crane or some exotic wading bird that, if crowded, raised a crest of feathers on its head and gave you a painful peck.

She lifted up her finger and she said, "Caw caw. No. Come come." The dear, she says, can hear her voice. He was badly deaf, loved her. So, of course, did Spencer Tracey. Half the charm of the Tracey-Heppburn partnership

Nancy Banks-Smith discovers the perfect chat-show guest, welcomes Mapp and Lucia and mourns Robin of Sherwood

was that she looked persona jolly well grata at Crufts and he looked like the lo-pared winner of a long line of dog fights. Tracey was the dangerous ground ("I can see you are going to tread too far in just one minute, so you had better watch your step") on which James put a sacrilegious hand. He persevered bravely and talking of Tracey the cawing voice softened for the first time.

"What was it about his acting?" "Ain't you seen his acting?" "He was just it. He had an amazing direction in his funny old eyes. He found living difficult. He found acting easy. He could just do it."

And then she simply stopped talking altogether.

Heppburn on star quality: "You've got a good hot motor inside of you, and your eyes shine and your teeth shine. I don't know what the hell it is, but it makes one into a freak that is fascinating. But I've got it."

Heppburn on privacy: "I would love to have been a painter or a writer, anything I could have done alone."

"Selling my deteriorating self, that is very humiliating work." ("Do you really believe that?" "I know God damn well that's true. I've got a pardon my saying so, because when you cease to be delicious, you get dumped. When you sell yourself, that

is difficult and that's why I would like to have had a more private profession."

Mapp and Lucia (Charmel 4) is a delightful triumph. It is set as the lovely opening title suggests in an England that is small, clear-cut, and well-washed. At that point in our island story when a Rolls was called a Royce, and the peace of the countryside was broken only by cries of "Sorry partner" from tennis courts, and the sound of local ladies colliding in expiatory Benson's book is "cordially dedicated to the Marquess of Carisbrooke" and I should jolly well hope so too.

There is something Elizabethan about these monstrous

women. John Knox would have spoken sharply about them. It was altogether appropriate that Mapp and Lucia should begin with Lucia (Geraldine McEwan) playing the Virgin Queen in a pageant as if Philip of Spain had just been caught out in some appalling faux pas or solecism like eating paella with his knife. It will be impossible to read the book again without hearing the swoop of Geraldine McEwan's voice and the sound of eyelids being narrowed. She has, as great performers do, laid waste the part for those who follow.

Lucia has a little lamb, it hasn't any hair, but everywhere she goes, the lamb is always there. As Georgie, Nigel Hawthorne's resemblance to a sheep in a toupie is downright disturbing.

When Michael Praed died

silhouetted against a purple sky in Robin of Sherwood (HTV) my phone bill leapt convulsively as my daughter made long phone calls to her friends, most of the time being spent in them all sobbing inconsolably. Now Michael Praed has been translated to glory and eventually to Dynasty. Harlequin TV intend to resurrect Robin in the shape of Jason Connery. Sean's lad. Possibly Robin will prove to have had extensive plastic surgery from some passing leech.

This quite violent and modern series — there is nothing very merrie about Robin's mob — has a strong dash of Celtic mysticism which should simplify Robin's reincarnation. The Sheriffs of Nottingham took an understandably gloomy view. "It's not over. It will never be over."

John Arlott reviews Whistler glass engravings

Depths on the surface

FIFTY Years on Glass, exhibition of glass engravings by Laurence Whistler and his sons and daughters, Simon, Daniel and Frances, is remarkable in several ways. Compelling for students of glass engraving, for those who have never before seen a collection of work of this kind and quality it will be a revelation. In that half-century Laurence Whistler has created and led a revival of glass engraving from the mechanical skill it had become since the days of the 18th century Dutch masters to the level of art. He has, too, formulated entirely original techniques. This collection strikes the eye with the splendour of pictures released from glass — drawings not in black and white, but in light on darkness.

It is the splendid justification of a philosophy. Over 40 years ago — before Daniel and Frances were born — Laurence Whistler said to me: "I want any children of mine to spend their lives doing what they enjoy; after all, I have, apart from the writing, my life been spent in writing, mainly poetry, and engraving glass, that has left me completely happy. I want to see them happy in the same way."

Some of Whistler's earliest work is to be seen at this exhibition, but his recent work, much of it on bowls, is as fine as, or even finer than any he has ever done. It is only Country (1945) invests the bowl on which it is portrayed with a third dimension. The Apollo Landing creates a convincingly haunting, otherworldly landscape. The Music of Chalk is an expansive, composite portrayal of Whitlure.

In A Constellation at Sunrise — first light reflected in the window panes of a house — he exploits his medium in masterly fashion. He is not simply a technician. If his pictures were drawn in pencil or painted, they would be accepted as artistic creations expressed in the blend of line, stipple and drill on glass, of which he is the ultimate master, they are all but unique.

He has proved ingenious in planning the lighting of his work on glass which fully reveals its splendour. His 12 glorious windows for Moreton parish church in Dorset — surely the only instance of all windows being engraved — are dedicated there on March 31. It will certainly become a place of artistic pilgrimage.

His sensitivity to his material is a rare gift: that his three sons have inherited — or acquired — a similarly sympathetic touch is at once remarkable and, for him, deeply rewarding. Simon, the eldest at 45, is not unlike his father in style, with the same bias towards architecture and landscape. In this exhibition his Frostlike Cottage and Interior of a Lodge at Oporto (recently decanted) are outstanding.

Daniel (31) is freer — in a way stronger in method — and tends to work with drill as well as stipple on glass slabs, sometimes on both sides. Drowning Sleep and Sea Piece are characteristically powerful. Frances — born 1967 — has an instinctively certain touch on glass, and a wide range, shown by examples of delicate butterflies, all on goblets.

The exhibition — of 79 pieces, many lent by the owners, including the Queen Mother — shows a historic range of Laurence's work and a creditable selection of his offspring's. It coincides with the publication, in a limited edition of 1200 copies, of Scenes and Signs on Glass (Cupid Press: £24) by Laurence Whistler.

Fifty Years on Glass: at the Hrush Request, Kenwood, April 15, and at the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, from May 8 to June 30.

A gamble—but Frances Barber's Ophelia was a risk worth taking. John Ezard reports on the 'tragic heights' and stardom beckoning one of Stratford's hottest properties at the Barbican tomorrow

A girl from Wolverhampton

"Make an audience frightened, make them laugh, make them cry, make them love you," Richard Barber told Frances Barber. She demonstrated as much in a single, astonishing spell with the RSC at Stratford last year. She was a betting shop manager's daughter from a Wolverhampton council estate after five years' Fringe work and tipped by Michael Billington as a prospect for 1984. But she had never been on a big stage, never acted a Shakespearean lead anywhere and never played at open-air theatre.

Tomorrow night, when the RSC's Hamlet transfers to the Barbican, her Ophelia at 27 is critically ranked almost equal to Roger Rees's Hamlet. And there's also her

happen to a girl from Wolverhampton."

At Stratford and London she discovered what nerves can be. As she waits for the opening, she brims with quotes from Not a Turn Untoed, Diana Riggs's anthology of critical brickbats for theatrical pratfalls — but she recites them with more glee than angst.

Even during technical rehearsals, dress rehearsals and previews, her foremost characteristic seems her tremendous natural animation, a superfluity of vitality and heart. She gives through the stage door out of a Barbican rainstorm with a hooting belly-laugh which would have gladdened Joan Greenwood at Stratford East. Into a sudden morning brings a face which is, as was once said of Edith Evans, "like a city in illumination" and exactly the manner which Christopher Dean teasingly diagnosed in Jane Torville at the height of their triumph — a touch of "our Nelly from the Dolly who comes out to be a star in the end."

It was that same February when Richard Barber first walked into the Barbican audition for the part of a maid in Camille and walked out with the lead.

She grew up on Wolverhampton's Castlecroft estate in a family with no theatrical interests. Her mother was a school cook. With five siblings, she had to "grow a very big mouth" to compete — the only pointer towards acting she can identify. She

needed to help her father mark the board in the betting shop and at Moorome Green dog track.

She had an ambition to buy my father a racehorse. To see his own horse racing would mean more to him than to have seen me playing Ophelia. Well, perhaps not more — but as much."

She got a place at the Municipal Grammar School, a famous crime, kids used to throw stones at me when I came off the bus at night. There her confident mouth led to parts in school plays (Nancy in Oliver) and to poetry-reading prizes. Later at Bangor University, she tended to be cast as gassy, rumbustious slags rather than "wimpy juvenile leads."

Whenever they wanted anyone to have a really big role or stage, they sent for Frankie Barber. But acting as a career struck her as a middle-class preserve.

"I was always up against people to whom I felt inferior because they had had piano, ballet and riding lessons. I have always felt on my own. No-one was ever, ever going to leave me any money or look after me. I've given me an ambitious drive — not in a ruthless careerist way but to be able to pay the rent. I always knew I would have to make my own way."

She was resigned to becoming a teacher of English and drama. Then John Stock came to Bangor. For her it was like a circus coming to town; a small, committed

company touring the left-wing plays she liked. "That was where my enthusiasm started."

She applied to Bristol Old Vic drama school, borrowed £40 to get to the audition and was rejected. She couldn't afford to try other drama schools, so she got a postgraduate place at Cardiff. And there in 1979 the circus finally came and took her away. Mike Bradwell of Hull Truck gave her a successful audition and in 1980 she was a cinema matinee idol in the 1930s. He put his arms round her afterwards and said, "I have seen many Ophelias in my time but you are the only one who has made me cry."

The key to Camille was that she took self-destructively but optimistically into herself not only the suffering of her own life but the egotistical, possessive and barren pain of her rich lover Armand Duval. Her approach to both parts was mature, perilously ambitious and unusual in the tenderness of her imagination. In Camille, some love scenes and the death bed were as affecting as the Garbo performance she herself has never seen.

For the future, it things work out — and Ron Daniels among others is sure of her — she would like to play Hedda Gabler, Nina in Chekhov's Seagull, and which will not surprise those who saw her Camille, Cleopatra.

FEARLESS FRANKIE — Frances Barber. Picture by Frank Martin

Accompanying the course there is also a detailed and wide-ranging reference work for the seriously engaged student or professional. The Countrywide Handbook (£5.99) is intended as a comprehensive guide to the legislation, official bodies, private groups and significant documents that relate to the countryside.

From Michael Joseph's Mermaid Books come two luxurious treats for the amateur naturalist. British Trees in Colour by Cyril Hart, with illustrations by Charles Raymond (1973, £7.95), by its sheer size and magnificence would be useless as a field guide, but is a very lovely reference work for the armchair. Covering 40 broad-leaved trees and 23 conifers, it gives a detailed identification, and technically detailed individual descrip-

tion, with life-size paintings that are as helpfully accurate as all seasons.

Heather Angel travelled 48,000 miles in a year to take the many hundreds of colour photographs for the sumptuous The Natural History of Britain and Ireland (1981, Mermaid £8.95), a book of astonishing value. Each of six habitats is given a long and concentrated informative essay, ending with a guide to its characteristic flora and fauna; Heather Angel herself on coasts and islands, M. A. Ogilvie on freshwater wetlands, Eric Duffy on lowland grasslands and heaths, John Miles on uplands, Eric Sims on woodlands and hedgerows, and W. G. Teague on towns and suburbs. Both to look at and to learn from.



Country matters

Alex Hamilton reviews a selection of paperbacks on the world about us

The Changing Countryside edited by John Blunden and Nigel Curry (1985, Croom Helm for the Open University in association with the Countryside Commission, £11.95). This is the main element in an OU short course, which is also accompanied by nine current TV programmes to be repeated six times until 1988. But it is in its own right a splendidly informative and invigorating book for anyone aware of the traumatic changes and conflicting interests at work in rural England and Wales today.

It introduces arguments and evidence from all sides of the battle for land use — farmers, landowners, indigenous rural dwellers and new immigrants, recreationists, conservationists, the forestry and water industries, eco-

logists, agricultural support industries, new town planners — and considers the effects of each of their profit-and-loss accounts not only on the general British population but on one trading partners and the Third World.

This present crisis of change in the countryside is set in its historical perspective, and the book does leave the reader guardedly optimistic that, with so much imaginative awareness and hard-researched knowledge around, the outcome may be less than disastrous. There are few condemned villains (though EEC policies seem to be at the root of an alarming number of problems), but rather an exploration of possible incentives and means of persuasion to change short-term or personal interests into long-

term, or national, ones, and a realistic recognition that no one party can be a 100 per cent winner.

In such an academic study, it is refreshing that the witnesses called are by no means high-flown or inaccessible in their theses. Following the constant and despairing theme that the nation plans to make millions of farmers who agree to do nothing, one critic points out that the same logic of compensating for national loss would give money to anyone who agreed to give up his or her land. It is equally clearly not losing income that he has never had,

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COVENT GARDEN

Edward Greenfield

Lucia di Lammermoor

IN A typically down-to-earth manner, Jean Sutherland some years ago described to me the effect on the brain's oxygen supply of prolonged Colouratura: "It makes you feel all woozy. It wasn't just Dame Joan who was 'all woozy' at the end of the mad scene in this latest revival of Donizetti's Lucia di Lammermoor but the whole audience, who justifiably rose in standing ovation."

It is one of the miracles of vocal art that a singer who has never made any bones about her age (60 next year) can still sing with such freshness and for that matter act with the bird-like lightness of a girl. It was in February 1950 that her first Lucia under Tullio Serafin in the same Victorian mezzotint production by Franco Zeffirelli brought her inter-



HIGH ON IT — Sutherland's Lucia at Covent Garden. Picture by Clive Barba.

national stardom overnight, but even a Sutherland devotee must gasp at the way age seems to leave her behind.

A sticking curtain hardly helped her first scene by the fountain, but any clouding in the voice departed the moment she started the aria. Regnava nel silenzio, fresher and simpler than it once was, with Richard Bonynge in the pit pressing a little faster. But the sweet precision of even the most casual trills not to mention the colouratura of the cabaletta still go with size and projection apt for a West End singer.

If in Act 1 an occasional beat in the voice at the top of the stave (more trouble some ten years ago than now) was allowed through in Act 2, the mad scene was again supreme, sustained and concentrated, with the long flute-accompanied cadenza this time pro-

viding a culmination. Ironically it was then the excessive interim applause which very slightly broke the concentration, and prevented the closing ensembles from having quite the same heady exhilaration.

In moments of vocal art the tenor, Carlo Bergonzi, 60 last birthday, runs Dame Joan very close. Apolly he sang Edgardo opposite her with a firm, finely projected tone that revealed only the slightest wear under stress at the top. Sutherland's diction has much improved over the years, but Bergonzi's allows every word to be heard (much easier for a tenor) and in detail and intelligence every phrase reveals all the sense of his classic recordings of the 1960s.

Gwynne Howell, as the tutor, Ramondino, gave the outstanding performance, otherwise, dark and bafeul,

while Arthur Davies brought tenor tone usually contrasted with Bergonzi's in the brief role of the victim, Arturo. John Rawnsley was admirably firm and clear as Enrico, but seemed too overwrought to make much of the man's villainy.

Richard Bonynge was ever a most understanding accompanist of his soloists, but then hustled the chorus cruelly whenever he could. It may be fast enough for a small theatre, but much harder for everyone at Covent Garden. Zeffirelli's production was well-staged by Jeremy Subliffe. Dame Joan has elegant costumes designed by Michael Stennett for her Australian Opera performances.

ELIZABETH HALL
Meirion Bowen

Australian premieres

THE FIRST of Lontano's two encompassing and highly stimulating programmes entitled Pacific Connections exemplified with the melting-pot situation in current contemporary music. Here, five Australian composers beckoned towards the Far East, medieval and present-day Europe and Chile, while a single Englishman, Anthony Payne, encapsulated many traits in Australian and West Coast American music. The connections were actually there in short, and not a slightly bogus programme.

The most abstract work — you would have thought it came from IRCAM — was David Worrall's Hesse-inspired Glass Games. But it was not in the least self-conscious or contrived. In its tripartite scheme, the basic

six chord structures heard at the beginning and end lead one to expect a hieratic, most trivially detached formal interplay. Yet the central refractory section was delightfully improvisatory, ranging across textures and timbres with kaleidoscopic freedom. The taped sounds here interacted and blended in with the live instrumental parts effortlessly.

In Barry Conyngham's Vikings, for computer-generated and instrumental quartet, the music flowed even more organically. It was like a madrigal comedy, with four sharply defined personalities interacting, sharing their views of different situations, sometimes clashing but always quick to resolve their tensions. Not for nothing did the piece take its start-point from the overlap between vocal and instrumental expressiveness.

Both Anthony Payne's A Day in the Life of a Mayday and Anne Boyd's The Metamorphosis of the Solitary Female Phoenix dealt with processes of growth and transformation. Payne was stronger on sheer logic and aptly placed contrast; Boyd deployed oriental colourings shamelessly but tellingly, taking the listener through a mythological trip, just as Payne conjured an engaging nature tone-poem. Odaline de la Martinez directed these pieces with particular firmness.

At the further extremes was Peter Scuthoof's solo cello piece Requiem (played with great concentration by Margaret Powell) and Vincent Plush's On Shooting Stars. In the six movements of the former, cool plangency melded and altered and became integrated (marginally) with more passionate ideas in the composer's own idiom. Lacking a larger context, its impact was elusive. On the other hand, Plush achieved an immediately compelling

commemoration for the Chilean musician and poet Victor Jara (who was tortured and killed after the overthrow of the Allende regime), transcribing and building mobiles around three of Jara's own compositions. Latin-American rhythms and percussion were often in the foreground, but Plush's development of the thematic content was independent and not in any sense overdone. The emergence of Jara's own voice within the texture near the end (where cassette recorders were brought into play) capped a sincere and affecting work.

CARDIFF
David Adams

Family Entertainment

FOURPLAY Theatre have a heavy responsibility: they are the only comedy cabaret group in Wales since the demise of Baby Grand and Fresh Claim and a lot of people have been pinning their hopes on this young group of often rather humourless performers.

Family Entertainment, alas, is a show that reveals little sign of the promise seen in their first production, Live Sex On Stage, or the slightly manic but originally black comedy of their follow-up. They miss their predictable target, the inter-nuclear bourgeois family of allegedly Victorian invention, mainly because it is attacked from the inside. The four co-authors and performers possibly speak from experience but their criticism suffers because it seems so personalised.

The format of the show, which opened at Chapter Arts last week and goes on

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What value have sanctions against apartheid?

The South African government's violent attempts to extinguish the black unrest of the past eight months, undeterred by foreign protest over the police massacre at Langa, have revived international interest in sanctions against the apartheid state. Arguments for and against are already being deployed as they were after Sharpeville in 1960 and Soweto in 1976. There are two new factors this time. There has been a qualitative change in the nature of internal protest, which is now continuous yet sporadic and unpredictable with distinctly broader grassroots support than before. The principal targets include the black surrogates of white domination—officials whose loyalty to the regime is deemed secondary by it to the colour of their skin, which obliges them to live in the seething townships. The authorities have responded with an escalation of their own by using the mostly white, largely conscript army to back the police. The other new factor is the readiness of influential Americans of the right as well as US liberals to mobilise the world's most powerful economy against apartheid.

The case against sanctions is strong. They got a bad name in the 1930s when they were ineffectually employed against Italy over its intervention in Ethiopia, and evoked renewed rivalry when used against the UDI regime in Rhodesia (the British Beira patrol solemnly guarded the door of a building with no walls). Sanctions, it is said on the basis of a mass of incontrovertible evidence, do not work. The incentive to make large profits from evading them is at least as strong as the motive of those enforcing them. They are a blunt instrument which can damage the good guys as much as the bad (consider the sufferings of Zambia and Mozambique over Rhodesia). The besieged economy may actually be strengthened by determined import-substitution (see Rhodesia again). Those imposing the sanctions may suffer. Specifically, South Africa accounts for 7 per cent of British investment and 2 per cent of British exports, and 150,000 British jobs could be affected, according to Whitehall. Sanctions are very difficult to enforce. They can hurt those they are meant to help.

But there is no denying that some selective sanctions work, even if their effect is by definition limited. The sports boycott of South Africa has produced visible change. The UN arms embargo may have made the South Africans self-sufficient in all manner of weaponry, but has starved them of aircraft, helicopters, warships and other major items. The partial oil embargo may have been evaded by all sorts of ruses and countered by massive stockpiling but it has cost a lot of money and distorted the economy. And the psychological damage to white confidence caused by sanctions may be unquantifiable but is palpable.

It is Jesuitical to set the overthrow of apartheid, no less, as the goal of sanctions and then to say they are pointless because this cannot be done. Apartheid cannot be demolished without decisive internal pressure, to which all external effort can only be secondary. The real issue is not whether sanctions work, but whether we are right, or even acting in our own best interest, in doing business with apartheid. International action put an end to slavery, surely a harder nut to crack, and there is no denying that it can help to eliminate the South African abolition campaign. As with slavery in the early days of the abolition campaign, the first question is not what others may or may not do, but what we are going to do ourselves against apartheid.

Mr Shultz prepares to wind down dollar

Growing signs of a slowdown in US economic growth could inject a much needed note of urgency into next month's annual economic summit in Bonn. The economic complacency of the United States Administration — which sees the strong dollar as something of a national virility symbol — was shattered at the end of last week when Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, warned that the high value of the dollar could damage the American economy and be "devastating" to the world's financial system if it led to a new era of protectionism.

Mr Shultz, a former professor of economics, told a Princeton audience that the dollar was still 80 per cent above its 1980 level despite recent falls. He claimed that if the Administration gave in to the clamouring pressures for protectionism it would have a devastating effect on the rest of the world. Instead he proposes a three-pronged plan to be considered by the heads of state of the seven leading industrial nations in Bonn under which the US would take greater strides to reduce its budget deficit while Europe and Japan take simultaneous steps to open up their economies and stimulate capital investment.

Although Mr Shultz's remarks are still a trifle hectoring (he really wants the rest of the world to adopt American supply side policies) they do at least start from the proposition that what is now happening in the US — the huge budget and current account deficits accompanied by a ludicrously overvalued currency — is a recipe for disaster.

This is a refreshing contrast to his own President who barely five weeks ago proclaimed that a rising dollar was a welcome virility symbol and that it was the rest of the world that was out of step. That may now be changing with the dawning realisation that the US economy will not be able to take advantage of the recent surge in capital investment unless the dollar falls sharply to a level at which American companies can compete at home and abroad without running for protectionist cover.

Since a large chunk of the recovery enjoyed by the rest of the world (modest though it has been outside Japan) is a result of America's ravenous appetite for imports Mr Shultz is quite right to suggest that other countries should now take over more of the "locomotive" role in recovery. The alternative is that we all sink into an even bigger recession together.

The trouble with the Shultz solution is that supply side solutions (like liberalising the Japanese capital market and reducing conditions in Europe which stifle investment) need a long time to take effect. A soft landing for the US economy also requires other stronger economies like Japan, West Germany and the UK — to loosen their tight fiscal policies to offset the effects of a contraction of the budget deficit in the US. This is what "convergence of economic policies" off preached at economic summits ought to be about.

There are other extremely important items on the Bonn agenda including the food crisis in sub-Saharan Africa and the next round of international trade negotiations. But the single biggest contribution which the heads of state could give is to prolong the world recovery in circumstances which allow the US time to unwind itself from a situation it should never have got into in the first place. This means that Congress must address itself to uncomfortable decisions like reducing defence spending (up 40 per cent in real terms in barely three years) and cutting into endemic tax privileges for individuals and corporations. Convergence, like charity, must begin at home.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

When Government provides no room at the inn

Sir, — The Government's new board and lodgings regulations, referred to in David Hencke's article Newton's Law Sends Homeless Into the Unknown (April 10) are the first major change to the supplementary benefit system since the Government announced its series of reviews. As a foretaste of what is to come they set a frightening precedent.

The Minister for Social Security has made it clear that there will be parts of the country where claimants will not be able to afford to live, even if they were born and raised there. In effect, the Government has introduced a policy which says homelessness is acceptable if it saves the Exchequer money.

The regulations are the first to remove the entitlement to a basic level of housing from a significant number of people. Most young people under 26 will only be able to claim board and lodging payments for a limited period in any one area, while many older claimants will find their benefit cut — in some cases, substantially. For most people, the change will be phased in after one, two or three months — but from the end of May, tens of thousands of people will lose their present

accommodation as a result of these changes. Some will find temporary refuge on a friend's sofa or floor, some will be forced into the overcrowded and insanitary squalor of cheaper lodging houses, some will sleep rough. All will suffer.

Those affected have, in the majority of cases, no home to go to. They are people whom parents or relatives, local authorities or private landlords could or would not house. Red and breakfast have become their last refuge.

This is a trend of which Shelter has been increasingly aware and increasingly critical. But the reasons for the increasing numbers have been clear. The growth in board and lodgings has been the price paid for major cuts in housing expenditure at a time of high unemployment.

This year public sector investment in housing will be 40 per cent lower in real terms than 1979/80. The number of houses built for rent by local authorities and housing associations has been running at less than 50,000 in each of the last three years — compared to an estimated need of at least 120,000 houses a year.

As the government appointed Social Security Committee said in its



report on the changes, "the root problem is a housing one, not a benefit one." The Government is paying through the benefit system for the housing shortage it has created.

There are alternatives. Increased investment in housing would in the long term reduce the dependence of both central and local government on board and lodging for housing the homeless. In the short term, the inspection and regulation of the conditions and changes in board and lodging establishments would go a long way towards getting better value for money.

Many people in the housing crisis are already at breakfast as the worst kind of accommodation we can possibly provide in a civil-

ised society. They cannot bear to contemplate what's next — shanty towns on Wimbledon Common — Yours sincerely, Sheila McKenna, Director, Shelter, National Campaign for the Homeless, 157 Waterloo Road, London SE 1.

Sir, — Your story (April 10) about the Government's new board and lodging restrictions for young people under 26 is a disaster which is about to overtake both claimants and housing authorities which are supposed to administer the new regulations.

In Oxford there is already a housing crisis with very long waiting lists, a declining council housing stock and lit-

tle building land remaining within the city. At present there are over 500 single people under the age of 26 in board and lodging accommodation, and over 70 families. Under the Government's new rules a large number of these people will be homeless at the end of May unless the city council picks up the bill for the difference between the maximum reduced benefit and the actual cost of accommodation. The cost to the council will be £25-£30 per adult per week. In a full year this might come to little short of £500,000.

Presumably the Government does not intend to pay this money. It has stated a discretionary system of setting limits on individual cases would rapidly become a means of circumventing the Government's expenditure controls. And there is the Government's real motive exposed by an attempt to clear young people out of board and lodging accommodation not by helping local housing programmes, but by another attack on the social security system.

Many young people are in lodgings because of Government restrictions on local authority housing programmes — so how the Government

can conveniently identify them as scrumblers (Costa del Sole according to the eloquent Mr Tony Newton, MP) and use financial arguments to round them off of what accommodation they do have.

Several hundred people risk being thrown out of the streets in the next few months in Oxford through no fault of their own. Once out, they would stand no chance of gaining new accommodation against the claims of the tourist trade, language schools, secretarial colleges and a host of other affluent organisations.

The Government may be pleased with itself at a manoeuvre which so neatly hurts two of its prime targets: first, people who are state dependant, and secondly, local government. In Oxford it has caused fear amongst young people, and contempt and disgust amongst those of us struggling to maintain our housing programmes under renewed Government attack. — Yours faithfully,

Michael Mart, Liberal member, Oxford City Council, Town Hall, Oxford.

Game plan for football peace

Sir, — A week is said to be a long time in politics. It is also a long time in football. This last week has been the most important period in the life of Luton Town Football Club.

On Sunday April 7 following discussions between the Government and the football authorities, the press published details of the Government's vision of the football stadium of the future, designed to eliminate hooliganism and make the game safe for a family audience. The press went on to suggest that the football authorities thought it would not work — we did not agree.

Then on Tuesday, April 9, the Football Association ordered Luton Town to fence around its ground at Kenilworth Road in addition, that is, to the steel barriers already built between the visitors' terrace and the pitch. After 18 trouble free years, the genuine regular supporters and thousands about to be fenced in because of the mindless action of hooligans from elsewhere hellbent on destruction.

Finally, on Saturday, April 13, Luton Town played Everton for a place at Wembley and Europe — what a prospect that was for a small club like ourselves.

It is ironic that it was the deplorable scenes at Luton Town that prompted the Prime Minister to intervene personally, and it is the same Luton Town that has been pioneering the way towards the sports stadium now being put forward by the Government as the solution to the problem.

Because of the threat of a new relief road, Luton Town has been faced, these past five years, with the need to move from Kenilworth Road where it has played league football for one hundred years. Luton commissioned an independent study of design plans for the stadium of the future, and the international firm of Coopers and

Lytton, concluded that the concept was a sound one.

That concept included all of the key elements: design by a professional, and would indeed go a long way towards, if not eliminating, the opportunity which "football" presently offers to those seeking to do violence for their own sake.

The funding necessary to go forward with such a new stadium were obtained from the football authorities and Luton Town was proud to be the first League club to obtain sanction to move under the League's new regulations.

Then the wheels came off, and simply because first Luton Council and then Milton Keynes Development Corporation, having each expressed considerable interest in the project, were unable or unwilling, or both, to invest a degree of financial and other support without which the new venture such as this would have no chance of success.

Now Milton Keynes appears to have backed a remarkably similar scheme to our own — but with financial backing from the US.

Luton Council may have missed the opportunity, although it is still not too late. Milton Keynes appears to have the vision but only with American aid — but where is our Government in all this?

Luton Town has no wish to be remembered as the first league club to fence in its supporters, but rather as the first league club to play in a stadium designed with the whole family in mind. The Prime Minister is right in her vision of the future, but she and the authorities need to get their support if we are to make it come true. — Yours John Smith, Executive Director, Luton Town Football Club, Kenilworth Road, Luton.

Staying power

Sir, — I question John Lawson's unexplained assumption (Letters, April 10) that the introduction of proportional representation would be a separation of Social Democrats from Liberals.

Maybe one or two constituencies with overwhelming SDP or Liberal majorities in terms of grass-roots activity would be tempted to go it alone. But the hard facts of political campaigning suggest a permanent partnership.

In many regions the Alliance partners recently worked as one unit in order to produce County Council majorities.

Add to this the fact that the parties are establishing a joint policy committee which will co-ordinate general election policy for 1987 or 1989 and it becomes clear that the parties would find it impossible to divide at the very moment when one of their most fundamental objectives had been achieved. — Yours sincerely, Andrew Trimball, Chairman South Nottinghamshire SDP, Redhill, Nottingham.

Base comment

Sir, — I don't know about Mr Fitzgerald's 1984 edition of *Illegitimate Nil* Carborundum (April 12), but in that same year, the pilots at Shellington RAY aerodrome were a little unpopular with their ground crews for an hour or so of a similar Tiger High with the word "Wellverden" instead. But my favourite was the inscription on the nose of the Lancaster, shown to me by a fellow pilot from Australia, that the crew were "in Extremis". — Yours John Smith, Executive Director, Luton Town Football Club, Kenilworth Road, Luton.

An inquiry that could solve teachers' problems

Sir, — One thing clearly apparent in the letters of most of your correspondents about the teachers' problem is that many teachers have too much to do and not enough time in which to do it. For this reason I find it hard to understand the position of the teachers' unions to the introduction of more detailed contracts for teachers.

I agree that the contracts would have to be fair to teachers and I believe that an essential preliminary is an examination of what actually goes on within schools of the present day, rather than what people think goes on.

I believe that this inquiry should be carried out by a team of management consultants or social scientists, not by a body which has no connection with teaching or education but which understands about management and organisation. I make this provision since it seems to me that too many of those who are involved with education have too many preconceived ideas and prejudices to assess the situation objectively. — Yours sincerely, Warnock's Dimbleby lecture.

Why BBC ratings don't count

Sir, — I read with mounting anger about the BBC's plans to terminate the contracts of six or seven experienced current affairs reporters when, not so long ago, it raised the salary of one of its female Breakfast Time presenters, whose special qualification is her good looks, to an astronomical level normally achieved by pop stars.

The Beeb seems to have got its priorities in a twist. If its excellent current affairs programmes are sacrificed on the battlefield of the ratings war, it will be the first step towards catering only for "popular demand" — the lowest common denominator of opinion. Surely the whole reason for the BBC's existence is that it should be able to cater for minority tastes. Ratings are irrelevant to public service broadcasting. To equate quality of programme with quantity of viewers is ridiculous. — Yours sincerely, Renate Harvey, Downmerry, Torpoint, Cornwall.

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their own time, where tasks are delegated downwards to those who have neither the time nor the facilities to do them properly. Any experienced teacher can write his own scenario to illustrate what I mean.

Something is badly wrong in a profession where most people over 40 want to get out of it as soon as possible. I suggest the solution lies in an independent inquiry into the type which I have described. — Yours faithfully, W.R. Bell, 4 Howard Avenue, Wantage, Oxon.

The two faces that Britain shows to the world



Hugo Young

THEY ARE an odd couple. In the Kremlin, the analysts' direction-finders must be turning off the screen.

While Mrs Thatcher does seven countries in nine days east, Sir Geoffrey Howe does three inside a week behind the curtain. To any foreign observer whose job is to divine from the behaviour of national leaders a common thread, an agreed system of signals about the simultaneous tours by the British prime minister and foreign secretary have been impossibly bewildering.

The Prime Minister's is one method. It is to go abroad and think aloud about Britain. Thinking aloud abroad, she relinquishes the few restraints she observes when she talks about home. The miners, we now learn, have been "seen off," and Mrs T speaks of herself as the mother of her people who, like children, need discipline. The speech-writers at home would not encourage her to say these things. They bespeak a patronising contempt for her own citizens which would be mistaken. The four completed a series of meetings in all the Warsaw Pact countries, and passes one milestone along the road, marked out in 1983, towards

more positive relations with western Europe.

To this end, separating these countries into two camps, one for the leadership and one for the people, is precisely relevant. In his methodical way, Sir Geoffrey has done this. Nor has he confused himself to the ruling clique. He has met the people, met the Chapter 7 group. In Warsaw, he comforted with Solidarity. He too, brought a message from home. It was about victory over division and populism. It was an uncodified statement of the importance Britain attaches to human rights.

The apothecary at Howarth, who is said to have been invited to try out the chair which Churchill occupied at the historic Potsdam conference, he declined to do so. He was, it was said, above his station. It is hard to imagine everyone thus spinning a Churchillian opportunity. But alas, by some oversight, Winston never made it to Singapore.

ODDLY MATCHED though this couple are, their relationship has been tightly in harness. Geoffrey and Margaret have helped each other up to the top. It has not, of course, been an equal partnership. But it has been less unequal than it appears, and now actually looks rather less one-sided than before, as their words did not differ.

These constituted the gospel of a common faith, in which the principal worldly element was tenacity. They went through the fire and came out the other side still clutching their rosary beads. Their sufferings were not unlike the martyrs, except that they got out alive.

This experience has given them a certain mutual admiration and for the best of

their common recitation produced for the eight years over his shoulders and real, a mutual commitment of extraordinary durability.

It survived some terrible strains. Margaret often treated Geoffrey like a punching bag. Many years after they got together, she still subjected him to pummellings even more ferocious than those reserved for Patrick Jenkins. But the process seemed to strengthen him. It thickened his skin and stiffened his sinews against the crushing pressures from the media and the public.

At that time, moreover, they spoke the same language. He did not shout, and she did not murmur, but their words did not differ. These constituted the gospel of a common faith, in which the principal worldly element was tenacity. They went through the fire and came out the other side still clutching their rosary beads. Their sufferings were not unlike the martyrs, except that they got out alive.

This experience has given them a certain mutual admiration and for the best of

reasons. They respect each other's guts. Politics, however, has its solitary side. There is a point at which it is every man for himself. Since becoming Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey seems gradually — he never does anything in a hurry — to have been approaching that point.

Close observers always thought, in fact, that the qualities of the ambitious never totally deserted him. They reckoned always to notice a residue of steady friidness alongside the intimacy which he and his prime minister were for so many years so close to share. All that is happening now, perhaps, is that this element in every politician is at last coming into public view.

For, now that they are in diplomacy and not economics, the language is no longer common. Their views of foreign policy are plainly different. The prime minister continues to treat abroad as a theatre for demonstrating the British revival and acting out the British national interest, very narrowly defined. Sir Geoffrey applies his eye for detail and his methodical dedication to finding out how the international system works, and inserting Britain's modest hand to oil the machinery.

Whether in the case of Star Wars or the European Community, Sir Geoffrey's days as solicitor to the messiah are definitely over.

THE INTERESTING question is which of these approaches now speaks more accurately for the British mood. For several years, as the reality of politics at tested, abrasion and attack appealed successfully to the national capacity for masochism, it was the perceived

need for self-correction — although it would never have been wise to launch such attacks from foreign territory.

Are we now beginning to experience a change of mood? Have we finally had enough of the aggression, the therapy of the decline, the way Mrs Thatcher's personal standing in the opinion polls presage an unstoppable tide of resentment against her hub and a desire to return to the more amiable politics of old?

I can throw only two shafts of light on these, then, questions which are likely to remain suspended over the political scene for the next three years. One is that during the Asian tour I have heard for the first time, heard some of Mrs Thatcher's most devoted friends in the Conservative party criticise her performance.

They thought it showed a reckless want of judgment to thousands of miles away, to exhibit a triumphalism which had more to do with her own glory than with her country. As a monument of insensate activity, the tour evoked little more than a shrug from Callaghan's famous remark from the Guadeloupe summit in 1978, apparently unable to comprehend that he was in the middle of a winter of discontent.

The other illuminating fact is that Sir Geoffrey is not looking back. The master of Chevening remains at the service of the public life. Without a trace of sentiment, he enjoys it. It never for a moment seems to get him down. He thinks he has plenty more to give. If there is a new mood, which favours emollient and hedonistic and small successes undramatically achieved, he is somehow as deftly placed to ride it as he was the years of thunder and attack.

150 من الامن

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It's an important role which requires a strong commitment to the principles of equal opportunities. Proven abilities in organising and prioritising complicated work systems, supervising staff and communicating at all levels, are essential.

Ethnic minorities are under-represented in this area of work and applications are therefore particularly welcome from ethnic minority women and men.

The GLC is an equal opportunities employer. We invite applications from women and men from all sections of the community, irrespective of their ethnic origin, colour, sexual orientation or disability, who have the necessary attributes to do the job.

For an application form, to be returned by 31 May 1985, write to: GLC Recruitment Department, Room 718, The County Hall, SE1 7PS or telephone 01-476 8124 ext. 667.

This post is suitable for job sharing

Hexagon

Media Manager

Salary up to £9,114 plus 8% for unsocial hours working.

This is an exciting opportunity to join one of the country's principal entertainment venues. We are seeking an energetic and creative person for this new post to take charge of all aspects of The Hexagon's marketing and advertising via press, printing, television and radio. The successful applicant will need a comprehensive knowledge of all media forms and their effective use, together with an understanding of the entertainment business. He/she will head a section responsible for the various elements of this activity including the computerised box office as a first line marketing tool.

For further details contact The Hexagon, Queen's Walk, Roshing, Barking, Telephone: Reading (0734) 592369. Closing Date: 26th April, 1985.

The Hexagon is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Creative Opportunity

Women Magazine require a Letter Writer preferably aged 23+ to work in the Readers' Service Unit, and deal with a wide range of enquiries from readers, with particular emphasis on personal and emotional problems. Some experience in dealing with problems is desirable but above all we need someone with a genuine concern for people - plus accurate and speedy typing. Applicants will also need a pleasant telephone manner, have an enquiring mind, and be able to work on their own initiative. Non-smokers preferred.

Salary: £8,829.00 p.a.

Please apply in writing with full CV to Anne Burdick, Services Controller, WOMAN Magazine, 3rd Floor, Law House, 100 Chancery Lane, London EC2A 3JF. Tel: 01-476 8124 ext. 667.

We are an Equal Opportunity Employer

ipemagazines

British Standards Institution

Technical Editor

Starting salary £5,151 p.a.

Can you meet the challenge of editing British Standards - quality publications of national standing? We are looking for a graduate with at least two years technical editing experience who would enjoy detailed, disciplined editing on a wide variety of technical subjects, and using wordprocessors and laser skills in day to day work. Maximum age 23 years.

For full information and an application form, please telephone 01-262 4100, ext. 33, or write to: British Standards Institution, 389 Chiswick Road, Uxbridge, Middlesex UB8 3PH. Tel: 01-262 4100.

BSI

Riverside Studios

Crisp Road Hammersmith W6

Financial Controller

An experienced person to head the Finance Department. Salary c. £12,000 negotiable.

Please write enclosing c.v. to the Chairman at the above address.

Closing date for applications: 29th April, 1985.

Riverside Studios is an equal opportunities employer.

WAKEFIELD THEATRE TRUST

MANAGER / DIRECTOR

required for

WAKEFIELD OPERA HOUSE

Salary from £12,000 pa

The refurbished theatre will provide a wide ranging programme of theatrical music and variety performances and act as a conference venue. The Company is looking for an enthusiastic and energetic person with some appropriate experience.

Further details from R. M. Walker, Chairman, Wakefield House, 22 Bond Street, Wakefield, West Yorkshire WF1 2BP.

Applications to be received not later than 30 April 1985.

CAROL ORGANISER (AGE WELL)

A part-time project officer for the Health Education Council are running a campaign to encourage people to take more responsibility for their own health and to encourage community health activities for all ages.

For details of the project and to apply for the position, please contact: Carol Organiser, Health Education Council, 105 Piccadilly, London W1V 0AU. Tel: 01-629 9495 ext. 266. Closing date: Friday, 26th May, 1985.

JOURNALIST

We require a young journalist to work for Printing World, the leading weekly magazine for the print industry, based in Tonbridge.

Kent. Please apply to Carol Edwards on 0732 564422, Benn Publications Ltd., Sovereign Way, Tonbridge, Kent.

MARKETING OFFICER

£7,611 + Performance Related Payments. Essential Car User Allowance & Expense Allowance

Directly responsible to the Arts and Entertainment Officer, the new post will appeal to candidates with a sound knowledge of Leisure and Recreation functions, allied to a specific interest in the marketing of public facilities.

The initial achievements of the Marketing Officer should be to produce cash returns on the entertainment side namely the Epsom Playhouse, Epsom Swimming Centre and various Council owned rooms and halls, whilst also promoting the outdoor recreation services, i.e. Horton Country Park, Hook Road Arena, Summer children's events and sports. Although the Marketing Officer will be appointed in these directions he/she will be expected to discover new markets which may well prove more profitable.

This post will require strong communication and negotiating skills allied to a market oriented commercial approach. In this respect it is expected that the post will be self-financing.

Further details and an application form can be obtained from the Personnel and Management Services Officer, Town Hall, The Parade, Epsom, Surrey, or phone Epsom 35552, Ext. 2184. Closing date: 26th April, 1985.

EPSOM & EWELL

TARA ARTS GROUP

A premier Asian Theatre Company with a specialised commitment to Asian Arts seeks additional part-time staff. The persons appointed will each be expected to have a knowledge of Asian arts with a flair for a more Asian language being an added advantage. A full driving licence would also be useful.

TRAINEE ADMINISTRATOR attached to the Group's professional touring company. The person appointed will be expected to show a proven interest in arts administration.

COMMUNITY ARTS ASSISTANT. The person will be responsible for co-ordinating a variety of community arts activities in and around Tara Arts Centre in South London, with a specific responsibility for running the weekly community theatre company.

PUBLICITY ASSISTANT to assist the Group's publicity officer in the general marketing of the Group's activities and production.

Salary pro rata £3,200 p.a.

Applications in writing to: Artistic Director, Tara Arts Group, 358 Garratt Lane, London SW16 4BS. Tel: 01-871 1486. Closing date for applications: Tuesday, 30th April.

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

National Park and Countryside Department

EXHIBITION DESIGNER

Scale 3-5 £5,922 to £8,262

A full-time Exhibition Designer is required to join the Visitor Services section of the Department, based at Hexham. The Department manages National Park Information Centres and Country Park Visitor Centres, the aim of which is to stimulate interest, awareness, and enjoyment among visitors to the Northumberland countryside, and the main duty of the successful applicant will be to design and maintain these and other displays and exhibitions. Candidates should have relevant experience in exhibition design and be able to take responsibility for all aspects of the design process. An interest in the countryside is an advantage.

Applications, to be received by May 8, 1985, and further particulars obtainable from: National Park Officer, National Park and Countryside Department, Hexham, Northumberland NE46 1BS. Tel: (0434) 955565.

COLUMBUS BOOKS

PUBLICITY ASSISTANT

Columbus Books are looking for a hard-working assistant for their busy publicity department to work on a wide range of illustrated non-fiction titles.

Initiative, accurate typing are essential, and previous experience in promotion and/or graphic design is desirable.

The job will be based in our modern offices in Bromley only 17 minutes by train from Victoria.

Please write with full CV to Veronica Mott, Promotions and Publicity Manager, Columbus Books, Devonshire House, 28 St. James's Place, London W1K 1BT. Tel: 01-235 8811.

RESEARCHER/PRODUCTION CO-ORDINATOR

Negotiable Salary London Based

A Japanese television co-ordination company requires English/Japanese speaking people to work with Japanese film crews on location in Europe and Africa.

Candidates would be expected to be familiar with Japanese working practice and have the ability to meet the demands of tight filming schedules.

Experience of working as a researcher within one of Japan's major TV networks essential. Salary negotiable.

Send full c.v. to: Paul Roberts, P.R.E.R., 4th Floor, Rex House, 4-12 Regent Street, London SW1Y 4PP.

PREMISES

The Norwich Arts Centre

Responsible for both a broad artistic programme, and financial management on a tight budget. Substantial experience of both areas is essential, together with skills in marketing, fundraising, and staff relations.

Current salary £7,000 pa (review October). For details please send large SAE to: Nicky Whitworth, Premises Manager, York, 10, Spinfild, Norwich.

Closing date Friday 10th May, 1985.

CAMPAIGNS WORKER

Applicants are invited for a committed campaign/public relations worker to join successful expanding worker co-operative. Experience in public relations, campaigning, publicity, and a knowledge of local authorities and the Trade Union movement an advantage.

For further details contact: LUCY, 8 BUNN, Tel: 01-235 3334.

Closing date May 3rd, 1985.

BROOK MARKETING SERVICES

PRODUCER/DIRECTOR

SPORTS DEPARTMENT

This vacancy exists within the busy team regularly producing local and network sports programmes including THAMES SPORT and MIDWINTER SPORT SPECIAL. The team also has a special responsibility at both local and network level for a wide range of sports coverage from boxing, snooker and darts to gymnastics, ice-skating and football.

Ideally the successful applicant should have a specialist knowledge of sport and be experienced in all areas of production, including video/tape editing, outside broadcasts and especially studio direction. Candidates should have proven ability to work well under pressure. An understanding of the requirements of live presentation is essential.

This is a contract position, initially for one year.

We welcome all applications regardless of sex, ethnic origin and marital status. Please send full CV, to arrive no later than Monday 22 April 1985, to:

THAMES TELEVISION

Peter Fiske, Senior Personnel Officer, Thames Television Limited, 305-316 Euston Road, London NW1 3BS.

EMBASSY STUDY TOURS LIMITED

is looking for an

ASSISTANT

for their language and study tour operation.

The successful applicant will have some EFL, summer, courses experience, be able to work efficiently in an administrative role, and have a flexible approach to the practical problems of large groups of multi-national young people.

The position is based in Hastings, Sussex.

For further details and appointment, please telephone Kathy Curtis on Hastings (0424) 444142.

Embassy Study Tours Limited is an Equal Opportunities Employer

BUSINESS PRESS INTERNATIONAL

Getting the word out

Production/Sub-Editor

"Cars and Car Conversions" and "Custom Car", two of the country's leading motoring magazines, desperately need a professional Production/Sub-Editor to keep them in shape. We're not looking for a time server or frustrated writer, just a calm, efficient production person to control copy flow, subbing, headlining, and problem solving.

The job's tough, but the pay's good and there are the usual benefits expected from a major publishing company.

Applications with C.V.'s to: Val Temple, Link House Magazines Limited, Link House, Dingsell Avenue, Croydon, Surrey CR9 2TA.

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

The Editor of Forum magazine requires an assistant. The successful applicant will have a sympathetic interest in the subject matter and preferably some editorial experience. Salary £5,500 - £6,500. CV and covering letter please to:

David Long, Forum, The Northern and Shell Building, PO Box 381, London E14 9TW.

LEADING LITERARY AGENCY

needs

YOUNG ENERGETIC NON-SMOKER

for varied work.

Good shorthand, typing and ability to deal with busy telephone.

Salary £8,000 p.a.

Telephone: Jennifer Westbrook 01-734 4795

ART DEALER

requires First-class Secretary

preferably with interest in and with knowledge of 20th-century art. Applications without excellent shorthand and typing will not be considered.

Salary according to experience and qualifications.

Reply to: EW 194 The Guardian

PALACE THEATRE REDDITCH

COMMUNITY THEATRE DIRECTOR

Apply in writing with C.V. to: Gail Harcourt, Palace Theatre, Alcester St., Redditch B96 8EA.

Closing date May 3rd, 1985.

YOU CAN FIND IT IN THE GUARDIAN

I could be a Production Assistant... Director... Writer... Art Buyer... Designer... if I read 'Creative and Media' jobs in The Guardian every Monday

Applications with C.V.'s to: Val Temple, Link House Magazines Limited, Link House, Dingsell Avenue, Croydon, Surrey CR9 2TA.

Embassy Study Tours Limited is an Equal Opportunities Employer

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READVERTISEMENT

DARLINGTON CIVIC THEATRE

A Leisure Facility of Darlington Borough Council

APPOINTMENT OF THEATRE DIRECTOR

Salary Grade PO7/ £12,243 - £13,326 (pending review)

Darlington Civic Theatre is one of the most attractive £3,600,000 Theatres in the country with a capacity of 599 seats and is principally a mixed programme touring house with Opera, Ballet, Music, Drama and Pantomime featuring substantially in its repertoire programmes which enjoys excellent audience and commercial support (approximately 85% average attendance during the last three years).

The person appointed will possess flair, imagination and enthusiasm for this most exciting touring theatre and have a sound business sense and experience of Theatre Management at a senior level.

A scheme of re-location allowance is operated by the Borough Council and assistance with temporary housing accommodation may be provided in approved cases.

An essential car user allowance is attached to this post.

For an informal discussion, please David Wright on (0425) 462 252. Application forms and further details are available from the Head of Personnel & Management Services, Town Hall, Darlington. Tel: (0425) 460651, ext. 318.

Closing Date: Friday, 3rd May, 1985.

DARLINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

ASSISTANT INFORMATION OFFICER

£7,212 - £9,771 pa inc

An opportunity to join a strong editorial team handling all the polytechnic's press relations, publicity, exhibition work, enquiries and schools liaison activities.

Applicants should be good, fast writers with a flair for organisation. Substantial relevant experience in journalism, press / public relations, or publishing is expected.

Write enclosing s.a.e. (min. 8in. x 4in) and quoting ref Y106C for further details and an application form. Personnel Office, Middlesex Polytechnic, 114 Chase Side, London N14 5PN. Closing date 24 April.

Middlesex Polytechnic

LOOKING FOR A CHALLENGE?

If you are a recent graduate (21-24) with drive, ambition and the determination to succeed, then a career in the stimulating world of media sales is for you.

We are currently recruiting for a number of well established publishing companies who are looking for confident, articulate trainees with the potential for sales management.

Excellent training is offered along with rapid promotional prospects and a first year salary of c. £3,500. If this sounds attractive, then the first step is to ring me and tell yourself Lesley Finn 01-631 1006 (no cons).

Price Jamieson & Partners Ltd

THE RITZ CREATIVE ADVERTISING

£9,000

Entrepreneurial commitment and experience in this field a must for industry's top young crowd. Typing 80 w.p.m.

SUCCESSFUL ENTREPRENEUR £9,000

Seeking professional P.A. to assist with his current project from Pub. £8,000.

FASHION £8,000

Answer trainee shows an exhibition for an international. Successful Company Liaison with buyers. Skills 90/90.

INTERNATIONAL ADVERTISING £7,500

Your strong confident personality will enable you to run this newly created department. Skills 80/80 - 10 P.

Contact Cheryl Stevens or Ken Russell on 01-428 1804.

Ritz Recruitment Consultants

BUSINESS JOURNALIST

Versatile and innovative business writer required to join team producing daily wire report and twice-weekly newspaper on economic and commercial aspects of international commodity markets. Investigative flair and prior experience of economic journalism essential. Salary according to experience.

Apply in full with C.V. to David S. Gilbertson, Joint Editor, Metal Bulletin, 16 Lower Marsh, London SE1 7JU.

Metal Bulletin P.L.C.

GREATER MANCHESTER MUSEUM OF SCIENCE & INDUSTRY

CURATORIAL ASSISTANT

SCALE 3/4 - £5,922 to £8,262

To assist in the day-to-day management of the scientific collections of this expanding museum.

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION ENTERTAINMENTS OFFICER

£10,107-£11,040

We are looking for an enthusiastic and imaginative person with entrepreneurial skills, ability to initiate and organise a dozen different entertainment projects at the same time and tenacity to search out and exploit venues and open spaces for a wide and existing range of entertainment events. This new and challenging post could be just the job for you!

Application forms and further details are available from the Director of Recreation, City Chambers, 249 High Street, Edinburgh EH1 1QF.

Closing date: 26 April, 1985.

Edinburgh District Council is an equal opportunities employer. Applications are invited from women and men, from all sections of the community, irrespective of ethnic origin, disability, or sexual orientation, who have the necessary attributes for the post.

IMPROVING SERVICES - CREATING JOBS

City of Edinburgh

SELL THE GUARDIAN

The Guardian today sells 60% more copies than it did five years ago and our sales are still increasing. We have forged ahead in advertisement markets and we are now looking for two first-class sales executives to maintain the momentum.

We are looking for people who are energetic, creative and disciplined. Our standards are high and we expect yours to be too.

The positions are:

DISPLAY SALES EXECUTIVE (Computer Category)

You will be selling to computer clients and their agencies and you will have a clear understanding of the computer markets.

Experience in formal presentation at a senior level will be an advantage.

DISPLAY SALES EXECUTIVE (Financial Category)

You will be selling to directors of major financial companies, banks and building societies. Some agency contact will also be involved.

Knowledge of financial markets would be an advantage but is not essential.

Write with full details to:

Caroline Marland, Advertisement Director,
or, in the first instance, telephone
Rupert Miles, Display Sales Manager
01-278 2332, ext. 3150

THE GUARDIAN 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER.

MARKET RESEARCH EXECUTIVE

To assist Director in the design, planning, costing and control of surveys for the British Airports Authority.

At least two years' quantitative research experience with an agency is required. In return a salary circa £11,000 plus car, bonus and relocation costs is offered.

To succeed you will need to be...
...enthusiastic, friendly and cheerful with a sense of humour
...able to work hard during long hours and under pressure
...a good communicator
...prepared to see the sun rise and not be afraid of flying.

To discuss further, phone Ian Burman or Bryn Escott on Oxford 84851, or apply direct with a c.v. to Ted Smith, Nielsen House, Headington, Oxford, OX3 9RX.

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ilea Inner London Education Authority

L.E.E.C. Inner London Educational Computing Centre, John Ruskin Street, London EC2R 0ED.

PRODUCTION TEAM

L.E.E.C. is a growing provider of learning resources for the Authority's schools and colleges. Software packages for computer assisted learning and other learning materials are developed by programming and educational teams.

Three new posts have been created to establish a production team which will coordinate editorial, graphics and production skills in the development of these materials. Publication is in the first instance to the Authority's schools and colleges, but some packages will be offered to a wider market. As a new team, opportunity exists to establish new levels of quality and a house style. All members of the team will be expected to use the available technology where appropriate, and to have interest in and enthusiasm for the educational use of computers.

The new posts are:

PRODUCTION EDITOR/MANAGER

Salary range £11,000 to £13,500 plus £1,410 London Weighting Allowance.

To lead the team with the programme and advisory teams in the development of L.E.E.C. publications. A general background and experience in publishing, together with leadership and liaison skills are required.

TECHNICAL EDITOR

Salary range £7,500 to £9,500 plus £1,410 London Weighting Allowance.

To take with and assist authors of materials at all stages in the production process. Applicants should have some experience of editing technical documentation and multi-media publications.

GRAPHICS DESIGNER

Salary range £7,500 to £9,500 plus £1,410 London Weighting Allowance.

To prepare artwork for L.E.E.C. publications, liaising with and assisting authors of materials. Ability to produce work of high quality without the aid of a computer is an essential requirement for this post. Application forms and further details may be obtained from The Education Office (Room 101, Room 202, The City Hall, London EC2R 0ED) for which the three posts you are applying. Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope for return of completed application forms by 30th April. Suitable for job share.

LEA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER.

GLC Working for London

CCTV Engineer

Manager of TV Services - Avery Hill College, SE9

We are looking for a woman or man with professional TV studio experience to take a full operational responsibility for the College's television services - comprising a TV studio, CCTV distribution system, VCR consoles and monitors and recording, editing and production services. This will include full budgetary control and providing training and advice to College staff and students in the use of equipment and appropriate techniques.

In line with the Council's positive approach to equal opportunities we would welcome applications from women as well as men for this post.

Applicants must have TEC ONC or equivalent in electronic engineering, or particularly relevant experience, and be able to communicate clearly and effectively.

Salary: £9,255 - £11,325 inclusive. Ref: 905.

The GLC is an equal opportunities employer. We invite applications from women and men on all grounds, irrespective of their ethnic origin, colour, sexual orientation or disability, who have the necessary attributes to do the job.

For an application form, to be returned by 26th April 1985, write to: GLC Department of Mechanical & Electrical Engineering, Room 3723, The County Hall, SE1 7PB or telephone 01-633 1294.

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EDITOR

Holiday Which?

London c.£20K + car

Consumers' Association is seeking an Editor for Holiday Which?, the quarterly magazine with a circulation of over 200,000 providing holidaymakers with accurate, readable information, balanced judgements and impartial advice on a wide range of topics. The Editor determines the magazine's direction and content, and is responsible for ensuring that it meets the needs of its subscribers as well as for negotiating and administering a considerable research and production budget. The brief also includes commissioning freelance contributions, managing other Holiday Which? projects such as books and media activities, and participating in CA's campaigning work.

An absolute commitment to quality, defined in terms of the readers, and demonstrable editorial flair are key pre-requisites, as also are the intellectual stature and management skills needed to control substantial resources and motivate an intelligent, creative staff. An informed interest in holiday subjects is also important. The successful candidate will probably be in the late 20s - early 40s.

Salary is negotiable as indicated and will be complemented by an excellent range of benefits including a car and relocation assistance, if appropriate. Please send full c.v. and salary details under Ref. 158/6/G, or telephone for an application form, to the consultants advising us on this appointment -

Charles Barker Management Selection International Limited,
30 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4EA. Telephone: 01-634 1141

Which?

Public Relations Manager

East Midlands

Our client, a major East Midlands based packaging manufacturer, currently seeks to recruit a PR Manager to take responsibility for Public Relations and Publicity on a Group basis.

This is a new position and the successful candidate will work on his/her own initiative, and be very much involved in formulating strategy. There will be specific involvement in the full range of PR activities: promotional and corporate literature, exhibitions, audio visual, media relations, and internal communications.

The successful applicant will have a good educational background, ideally to degree level, and at least 5 years' experience in Public Relations and Advertising. Maturity, creativity and energy are essential characteristics, combined with the ability to communicate at the highest levels. Age range 28 - 40.

A competitive salary is offered together with a company car, relocation assistance, plus other big Company benefits.

Confidential Reply Service: Please write with full c.v. quoting reference 1945/SS on your envelope, listing separately any company to whom you do not wish your details to be sent. CVs will be forwarded direct to our client who will be conducting the interviews. Charles Barker Recruitment, 30 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4EA.

CHARLES BARKER

ADVERTISING-SELECTION-SEARCH

Television Journalists

We are looking for journalists to work on Granada's regional news programmes in the North West. We need people with considerable experience, preferably in broadcasting, and with a lively and adventurous attitude to the daily flow of news. Successful candidates will initially be based in Manchester or Liverpool. There will however be a transfer of some Manchester based people to Liverpool by next year when we have launched our new high-tech news centre. The centre represents a significant evolution in the pace and quantity of our daily news coverage and the journalists we seek will be expected to make a significant and original contribution to this development.

Salary is negotiable, conditions of employment are excellent.

Send a cv with all relevant information about yourself by 29th April, 1985 to

Bob Connell,
Ref: J31,
Granada Television Ltd., Quay Street,
Manchester M60 8EA.

GRANADA TELEVISION
An equal opportunity employer

CMS CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY

requires a

Production Assistant

(Temporary 6 month contract)

To join a lively print production department. Needed are initiative, print experience and accurate typing. Could lead to a permanent post.

Salary: c. £200 per month.

Job description and application form from Judith Thomas, Assistant Personnel Officer, CMS, 117, Waterloo Road, London SE1 8JL. Telephone: 01-425 8681.

Closing date for completed applications: 29th April, 1985.

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The Foreign Secretary had to make the same three points in three different countries. HELLA PICK reports from Warsaw

How Sir Geoffrey played the three card trick

IT CERTAINLY did no harm at all to Sir Geoffrey Howe's ego that the Guardian and other colleagues were present as he sang away lustily in the Seven Angels tavern in Prague, distracting Mr Choupenek while two of his aides achieved a clandestine meeting with a group of Charter 77 activists.

His Czech hosts, however, were not amused. They have already said so, forcefully. British diplomats in Prague and this first visit by a British Foreign Secretary for 20 years has probably not done much to ease relations between the two countries.

This may not matter greatly. The Czechoslovak regime is more impervious to Western arguments about human rights, than perhaps any other Warsaw Pact country. What mattered most to the British visitors was to remind the handful of dissidents who are left almost everything except their dignity, that they are not forgotten.

It seemed equally important that the Czechoslovak regime should have a rare opportunity to tell the outside world of its battles to win more breathing space for the

Church's efforts to boost national morale.

But now that the Foreign Secretary has completed a full round of visits to the Soviet Union, the six Warsaw Pact partners, he must know how hard it is to find the right balance between the three tasks that the British Government has defined for its dealings with Eastern Europe.

Britain wants to bring credibility to arms control negotiations and argues that this depends on an overall improvement in the East-West climate, to which it can contribute significantly.

Secondly, Sir Geoffrey Howe has become more and more determined to play away at British concern for individual human rights. Last but not least, Britain wants to boost its trade with Eastern Europe.

Howe has persuaded himself that there is a logical link between all three propositions. Any reasonable person, he thinks, even Communist bloc leaders, should be able to grasp that the ability of Western parliamentary governments to negotiate successfully with the Warsaw Pact depends to a large measure on their response to dissent on their treatment of minorities and

especially on their respect for such individual freedoms as travel, uncensored speech, and religious practice.

Yet, his travels, to Romania and Bulgaria in February, and now to East Germany, Czechoslovakia and Poland have surely demonstrated that the Communist bloc leaders reject his logic and that his leverage, based on such argument, is minuscule.

Last week, one and a half days was devoted to getting the British message across to the GDR. 24 hours to Czechoslovakia, and two and a half days in Warsaw — a clear indication of their rating in Whitehall.

The basic pattern was similar. There was an official lunch or dinner given by the host country with speeches by both sides that set the overall tone of the visit. Then there were formal talks between foreign ministers, where each spoke to a largely predictable brief. There were courtesy calls, and in Poland's case, substantive talks with each country's leader. There was a British Government reception where the guest list was or was not a clue to contact with dissidents, and a call on a Church leader, one was available. At the end

there was a press conference, where local journalists were given the full bloom of the Foreign Secretary's thoughts, and where the British journalists, travelling with him, offered a display of probing aggressiveness towards their minister.

The three-country trip took place against the background of new developments affecting East-West relations. At the US-Soviet arms talks in Geneva, the space weapons issue has emerged as a major sticking point.

Sir Geoffrey Howe himself has delivered a sharp critique of President Reagan's strategic defence initiative, certain to encourage the Kremlin that the time was right for a new campaign to drive a wedge between the Western allies. Mr Mikhail Gorbachev had become the Soviet Union's new leader and his first major foreign policy declaration was delivered just before the Foreign Secretary arrived in East Berlin, a major part of it was directed at existing NATO differences.

But while Mr Gorbachev may have shown part of his hand on policy towards the West, the East European leaders are still very much in the dark about his expectations.

Everywhere the Foreign Secretary insisted that the Western alliance was solid. He glossed over his own doubts over President Reagan's Star Wars project and argued — as if he had discovered a new wisdom — that space weapons research began in the Soviet Union in the Sixties and that Reagan should be understood as a "Romantic come lately," just trying to catch up.

The Foreign Secretary was circumspect in East Berlin on human rights. Although he borrowed from Martin Luther, one of East Germany's favourite sons, to talk of a "trumpet call which could bring down the barriers and walls that still divide our peoples," he regularly refused all suggestion to denounce the Berlin Wall itself. When he was in Poland, within yards of the visible East-West divide, he pretended not to notice and also made sure that he was not photographed against it.

He made no serious gesture towards East Germany's dissidents, and he did not visit the head of the Evangelical Church. The GDR authorities in return played it cool. They even published

some of Geoffrey Howe's references to the need for free travel between East and West.

In East Berlin the Foreign Secretary's priority was to dwell on Mr Gorbachev's initiative as a misjudged attempt to divide the alliance. In return, the East Germans wanted to show the new Soviet leader, as well as Britain, that their national interest required friendlier relations with the West.

Czechoslovakia's leadership appeared to assume that pending further news from the Kremlin it was wisest to play old gramophone records about Western imperialism and to respond to Western ministerial visits by increasing the restrictions on dissidents.

The Polish authorities knew in advance that Sir Geoffrey Howe planned to visit the grave of Father Popieluszko, the murdered Polish priest, and that while he would make an attempt to contact Lech Walesa, he was determined to meet some of Solidarity's advisers.

The Polish leadership balked at the British desire to give a small private dinner for the Solidarity group, and might have cancelled the whole visit. But with Mr Gorbachev.

by inviting members of the opposition to a big reception, the government merely responded with a boycott of the occasion. This misfired because the gathering that turned up was made up almost entirely of dissidents.

Their presence and outspokenness underlined the lack of Polish consensus. But it also reinforced the Foreign Secretary's view that Poland, for all its faults, still has the most open society in Eastern Europe.

Hardly, Sir Geoffrey Howe, hardly, the most demonstrative of men, had tears in his voice when he spoke of his evening visit to Father Popieluszko's church. The crowds, the solemnity, the victory of the hopes of the congregation pinned on Britain had combined to convince him all the more strongly of his logic that European security and human rights are indivisible. Poland's leaders, he told General Jaruzelski need to make tough economic decisions, whose success depends on achieving national consensus.

He forgot, but Polish leaders do not — and neither do other East European leaders — that such boldness also needs a nod from Mr Gorbachev.

MARTIN WALKER on how Moscow rocks with caution

Red suede shoes

IT WAS perhaps the most important of the young rock bands would ever give. The hall below them was empty but for seven chairs. Slowly, the jury filed in. There were four women, one young, two middle-aged and one elderly, and three men in their thirties. They chatted contentedly with one another as the band filed on to the stage, introduced themselves and began to play.

The band called itself "last chance", and they had already been warned that this was a suspiciously pessimistic title. They were amateurs, who work and practice in their own time, and who perform without pay. This concert was to decide whether they would be given the right to play in Moscow's houses of culture, factory clubs, student hostels and at official concerts, whether, in short, they would play an "authorised" vocal-instrumental ensemble.

The band was formed five years ago, when the cultural atmosphere was rather more relaxed in the days when there was even a punk rock band in Leningrad called Automatic Satisfaction, whose lead singer called himself "Fig". They achieved transitory fame when he once urinated over his audience.

But the Communist Party plenum of July 1983, when Yuri Andropov was declared "ideologically and aesthetically harmful bands with dubious repertoires," put an end to all that. A complex structure of controls has been introduced, which requires the local Komsomol (the Young Communists), the musicians' union and the Ministry of Culture to police concerts, discs and the bands themselves.

Last Chance is one of the most interesting bands still playing. Their repertoire includes the poems of Robert Burns, nursery rhymes, Russian poets and their own lyrics, all set to music and performed in a theatrical, high-camp style. Rather like the British band Genesis, they use masks and costumes and produce something that is more cabaret than concert.

There are three of them. Sergei Vorobiev is the main singer. He plays acoustic guitar and works in a kindergarten. Sasha Samoylov plays drums and records as an amateur. He is the artistic inspiration, and works as an aerobics teacher. He began as a construction engineer, but is now studying part-time for a theatre director's diploma. Sergei Ryzhnev plays violin, which he studied at the Conservatoire. He makes a living teaching music, and used to play with the best-known of the Soviet rock bands, Time Machine.

They went through their repertoire without a trace of audience reaction. The jury sat silent, even though some of the act was funny, some stirring and, as of it rather soon. The band then filed out, and the jury began to discuss them.

The performance took place in the recreation hall of the Sverdlov silk factory on the banks of the river Moscow. The band has been on probation there for four months. The factory's recreation manager spoke first to the jury, and said the band was popular with his young workers, and that there was a good change from the usual disco.

The elderly lady from the Ministry of Culture then called in Sasha to ask him if he was really a professional. She asked him to play a few songs. Sasha was non-committal. The young man from the local Komsomol said that the band was always ready to entertain to play at youth clubs, and showed a co-operative attitude. But he wanted to hear the band's full repertoire in case there were "less wholesome" songs than the ones the jury had heard. "These nursery rhymes can sometimes have a different meaning for adults," he said.

The young woman, also from the Komsomol, then said simply: "This band must live. They are creative." Then the middle-aged woman from the local centre for public creativity said they were refreshingly different from the usual vocal-instrumental ensemble, had a good stage show and looked very neat. Sasha smiled politely.

There were questions about Sasha's plans for the future. Did he want to become a professional musician? He told them of his work for a theatre diploma. They checked Sergei's credentials as a qualified musician, and that was it. Last Chance was licensed not to become a full professional band, but to play at amateur venues throughout Moscow. They could even earn a little money.

And for the jury, they had solved a problem. This summer, Moscow hosts an international festival of youth, and Komsomol officials have been muttering for months about the need to field some decent Soviet groups who would not be laughed off by public creativity said visitors. If you want to be a rock 'n' roll star, contrade, this is the best possible time to try.

ED KOCH, the flamboyant mayor of New York is unmarried. So is Carol Bellamy, one of the currently declared challengers for his job. Danny Farrell, the Black-Is-White candidate, is divorced with two children.

Hardly typical New Yorkers any of them. But they symbolise a trend which, if it continues, is anything to get by, and it usually has been these past 100 years, will eventually become as pronounced elsewhere as it is here, not just the fragmentation of the family in big cities but the polarisation between the affluent and the poor, especially the poor who are women with children.

Between them, Grand Central Station and the 1980 census make a good starting point. The census confirmed that over the decade there were 800,000 fewer people in New York's five boroughs, 7,071,839 including 98 Eskimos. The number of families dropped 10 per cent, but the number of people living alone rose again to 909,238, almost a third of the city's households, reputedly a higher proportion than anywhere else.

Nobody knows for certain how many of these are the famous "Yuppies," the young upwardly mobile professionals who man New York's ever-more sophisticated service industries and wrong into the 75 dollar a week. Whether yuppie or not, even in New York, say lobbyists point out, only 2 per cent feel secure enough to come out when approached by opinion pollsters.

What is not disputed is that many are elderly and that nearly half the women over 65 in the city have incomes below the poverty level. The ultimate losers are the "bag ladies" who clutch their pathetic bundles of possessions into Grand Central Station every night in search of a ladies' loop to sleep in, or one of the phone booths next to O'Ryan's photographic shop. When the station closes at 130 the police will move them and the 100 or so men in similar plight out into mid-Manhattan, a policy reversal for New Yorkers who were letting them stay during the worst of the winter.

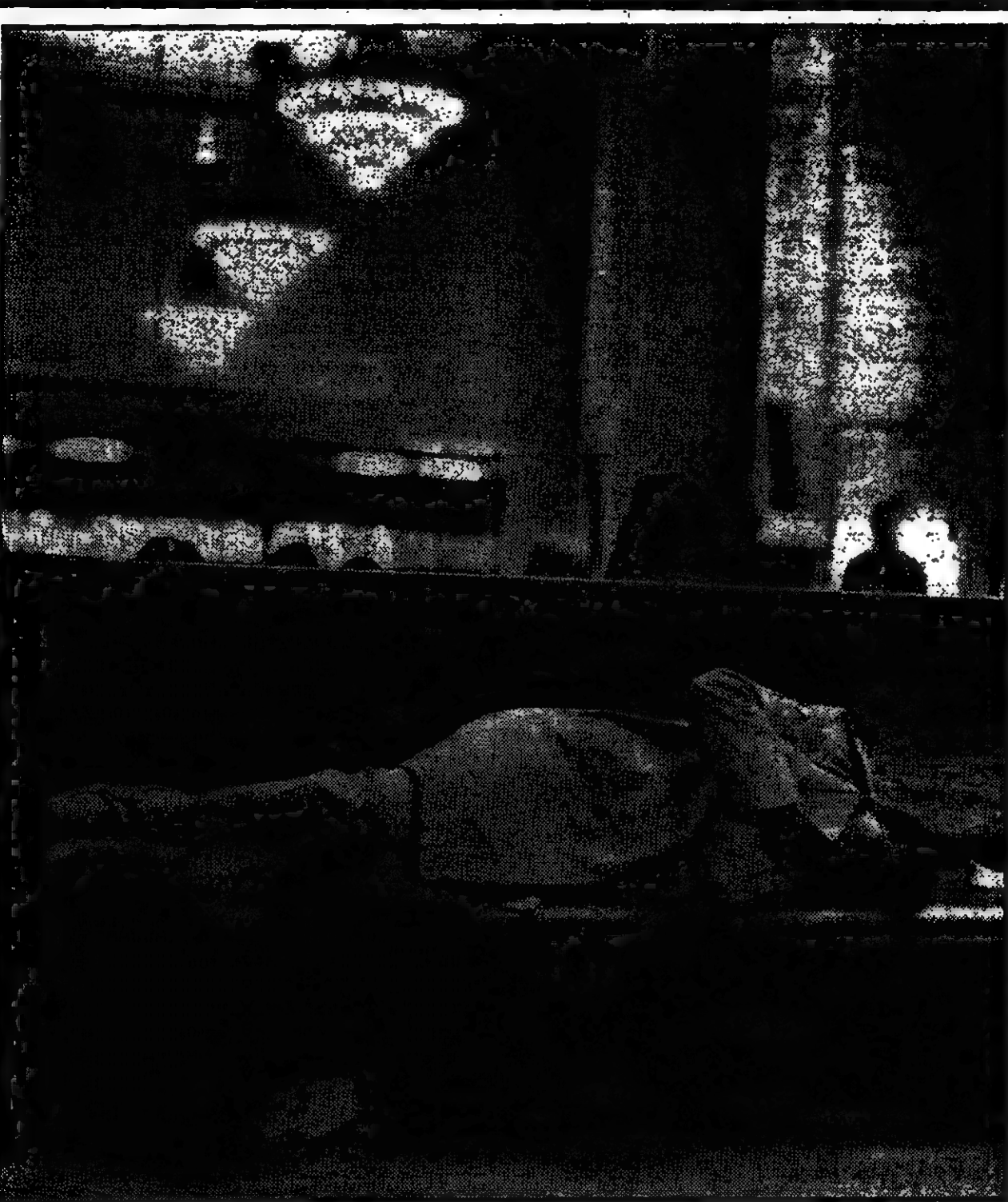
This area being a mixture of Soho and Easton with a hint of Belgravia at the edges, other elements in the demographic drama are not overlooked, if not actually watched, by late-night commuters having a last drink before the driving rain. Though there is always talk of gentrification destroying poor homes — even in Harlem — a cautious analysis in the magazine reports: "There is scant evidence that a back-to-the-city move-

New York is no place to be alone.

MICHAEL WHITE reports on the growing problems of the dispossessed

By Grand Central station they lay down and slept

Grand Central Station: makeshift dormitory for New York's homeless — picture by Neil Libbert



ment has begun. In fact there is a good deal of evidence to the contrary.

But if the middle-aged and middle-class who fed the city's crime, schools and taxes, have stayed away then the rich have slightly increased their hold on mid-Manhattan. Yuppie jobs in the city grew 10 per cent in the decade. And there are the immigrants, 24 per cent foreign-born now compared with 19 per cent 10 years ago.

Sociologists like Professor Roger Waldinger at New York's City University caution against bracketing them

all as an under-class. Some do work. The Chinese in the garment industry, Koreans with their grocery shops, Indians and Arabs with tobacco and stationery shops, West Indians do well in New York, accounting for their difference from native-born blacks. British whites thrive here on similar techniques.

The debate is whether the relentless process of upgrading some jobs, typists into word processors, and de-skilling others, stock-keeping into computing, will balance out or gradually destroy low-skilled jobs. Certainly the city is talking confidently.

Last week it claimed a record 76,000 new jobs in one year and, the strongest civic economy for 25 years.

The downside of this picture is evident, not far from Grand Central Station, in some of the 50 or so emergency hotels which New York's social services — the Human Resources Administration (HRA) — keeps full with homeless families, shabby, crowded hotels, often violent and, like London's, lucrative.

"The city is looking after an unprecedented 20,000 homeless people, the major-

ity women, and children — 3,440 families at the last count, or 12,000 people. They move — like an army of refugees — from one temporary shelter to another; in the Bronx, 64 families live in one huge gym.

Many surveys have noted the irony. Just when women have entered the labour force in huge numbers and are making some progress on pay and promotion, an unprecedented number are becoming poor. According to a report prepared for New York City councilman Ruth

Messenger, female-headed families in New York rose from 29 to 45 per cent of all families in the 70s. The number of such families living in poverty, nearly doubled. Women head 77 per cent of city families living in poverty. The official figures confirm that those living below the federal poverty level rose from 14.9 per cent in 1969 to 24 per cent in 1982.

The American Red Cross's newly-opened hotel for homeless families is a surprisingly cheerful failed motel at the other end of 42nd Street from Grand Central in what

When liberty seems divisible

MARTIN KETTLE examines the mounting strains in one of Britain's oldest pressure groups

THIS MONTH sees the climax of a series of political convulsions which threaten one of Britain's most durable and important pressure groups. Members and affiliates of the National Council for Civil Liberties convene for their annual general meeting in London on April 27. At stake are not merely the council's policies on key questions, ranging from the rights of the miners' strike to the rights of the National Front. The meeting will also decide the fate of the council's general secretary, Larry Gostin, and many believe that what sort of civil liberties movement, if any, survives to the end of the century.

The immediate issue facing the NCCL is how to respond to its own sponsored report on civil liberties and the miners' dispute. The inquiry published its interim report last December, but has still to produce a final verdict. But the interim report has angered many of NCCL's powerful trade union affiliates who have confined itself to police and court tactics. The unions are incensed because some passages in the

report blame miners' leaders, pickets and supporters for contributing to breaches of civil liberty.

The stakes for the NCCL are extremely high. If the members back the inquiry's approach, several sponsors are set to disaffiliate from NCCL. In theory this could remove up to a quarter of the council's £400,000 a year income. Jobs and projects would be threatened. The situation will be even worse if the Greater London Council also decides to cut its funding. But if the members reject, or even censure, the report NCCL will also be in trouble. The inquiry team would resign, leaving its work unfinished. Larry Gostin would quit as general secretary, and this in turn would trigger further resignations and disaffiliations.

The battle is important to the NCCL not merely because of the highly charged feelings which surround the strike, wider issues about the sort of organization which NCCL should be, also involved. Throughout its 51 year history, the NCCL has faced a difficult, some would say irreconcilable, challenge of building itself a broad, non-party base while, at the

same time, most of its support comes from the left.

This tension has erupted before. In 1939, for example, the NCCL took a demerit, but undoubtedly unpopular, civil liberties stance against the imposition of emergency wartime regulations which suspended habeas corpus and many other liberties. But it then undermined that stance when it supported the use of those emergency powers against Sir Oswald Mosley. To many of NCCL's founders, notably S.M. Foster, the council's president, this was an abandonment of principle. In the post-war period, Foster and George Orwell (among others) resigned their membership because they believed that NCCL was too pro-Communist.

During the 1970s, the NCCL became increasingly identified with the Labour Party. Its general secretary, Patricia Hewitt, and its legal officer, Harriet Harman, were both adopted as Labour parliamentary candidates while working for the council. These were also the years in which trade union affiliations, not previously the mainstay of NCCL support, rocketed.

Gostin succeeded Hewitt in

1983 amid official determination within NCCL that the new general secretary should not have a party political allegiance. It is now a condition of Gostin's job that he should not pursue a private parliamentary career. Since he took over, Gostin has deliberately tried to resuscitate all-party support for NCCL. An all-party parliamentary civil liberties group, similar to one which existed in the 1960s but which has since collapsed, has been set up. It is chaired by a Tory, Geoffrey Rippon.

Gostin's allies stress that these moves are not a personal whim, but have been encouraged and supported by his executive committee, which includes many left-wingers. There is no doubt that his strategy has had some success. Tory MPs who would in the past have abominated everything which NCCL advocates are now prepared to defend it. One MP, Steve Norris, has urged fellow Tories to read the interim report on the strike "because, against expectations, we at last have something which points to the desire to reach civil credibility."

Gostin's critics say that he is turning NCCL into the

right. His defenders say that NCCL must derive its policy positions from broad civil liberties principles and that its constituency should extend well beyond the Labour movement.

This major battle of principle will be fought out at the conference over three key issues. The first is the closed shop, a long-time headache issue for the council, which it has traditionally tried to fudge. Now a former general secretary of NCCL, Tony Smythe, is proposing that NCCL recognize the civil liberties principle that any person has the right to choose whether or not to join, or to remain a member of, a trade union.

Second, NCCL is faced with a re-run of the controversy which dominated last year's conference, the circumstances in which it should, if at all, give civil liberty advice to the National Front. A motion from the Bristol branch says that advice must be given "solely on the basis of the civil liberties involved, whoever is affected."

Last year, John McDonnell, deputy leader of the Greater London Council, threatened to cut off financial support if such a policy

was adopted. In the event it was not.

But the crunch issue is the miners' strike report. At last year's conference, with the miners' strike then only a few weeks old, trade union delegates successfully moved that NCCL should organize an independent public inquiry into police behaviour in the dispute. The final terms of the reference were the subject of bitter internal negotiation before the inquiry was eventually launched last August. NUM supporters strove to ensure that the scope was kept narrow, threatening that miners would boycott a wide-ranging probe. In the event, the scope was kept short — the civil liberties implications of the role of the police, the police authorities and the criminal courts in the events arising from and relating to the NUM dispute. The six members of the inquiry, chaired by Professor Peter Wallington of Lancaster University, concluded that this required them to examine and comment on the context of the police's operation, not merely its conduct. This is the issue which has provoked the backlash.

The extent of that back-

lash became evident when the NCCL executive met in February. It backed a motion regretting that the inquiry exceeded its terms of reference in commenting on the conduct of striking and working miners and charging that the presentation of the report was "unnecessarily damaging to the miners' cause."

As a result, Wallington has told NCCL that his team will resign if the motion is carried at the annual conference. Wallington himself will move rejection of the executive's line. At the last count, there were already some ten motions about the report, mainly critical.

Neither side is prepared to claim victory in advance of the conference. A group of executive members including the council chairperson, Bill Birtles, are still trying to find a compromise position. But with the executive openly censuring its own inquiry that will be a hard circle to square. The outcome will depend on whether enough of NCCL's individual members, who have to pay their own fares to attend, turn up on the day to outweigh the expenses paid union block votes.

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Adjustment and austerity will top the menu at the finance ministers' soiree



AMERICAN NOTEBOOK

Alex Brummer

ANY expectation that finance ministers from the debtor and creditor could calmly sit down and settle their differences at this week's meetings of the IMF and World Bank have been rudely shattered by real world events. From the Sudan to Argentina from Kenya to Brazil political and economic circumstances mean that in effect the finance

ministers are still meeting under the shadow of crisis. Indeed, some of the difficulties of debtor countries appear as intractable today as when the debt crisis first surfaced in Mexico, in the summer of 1982.

But perhaps as worrying is the weakening in the world economic outlook which has taken place since the IMF/World Bank annual meetings in Washington last September. New IMF forecasts to be released this week will downgrade the US's and the world economy's growth prospects for this year and next. And while the US decision to allow a monetary conference in Washington may ease some of the tensions among the industrial countries, Mr George Shultz's warnings about imbalances and their devastating potential still ring clear.

Furthermore, panic set in at the development committee when its chairman, the complacent Mr. Shultz, was relieved of his duties as finance minister of Pakistan technically disqualifying him from a sensitive job. Somehow, with the support of the Americans, he

has managed to hang on until after the meetings are over.

The agenda for the formal sessions of the interim committee is limited to an allocation of special drawing rights and the world economic outlook. Although the IMF in the form of Mr. De Larosiere, the developing countries and some industrial countries — notably France — remain in favour of a new issue of SDRs, the discussion is seen only as a formality. The US, supported by Japan and others, will block any such new issue on the grounds that it is unnecessary.

That leaves the world economic outlook. Clearly, after last week's OECD gathering in Paris, some of the heat has been taken out of the dollar issue. However, several countries have made it clear to the managing director that they intend to use the occasion to press for what has become known as "greater transparency" in the process under which the major industrial countries would be more formally required to bring their economic behaviour into line.

One proposal, gaining ground in the past few weeks, is that the IMF should carry out regular surveys of the country economies. The IMF during its annual review of member country economies has been up and publicly released. So the bank manager's prescription will become a blueprint for change.

This is one way of trying to tackle the outstanding imbalances in the international economy notably the US budget deficit and its impact on capital and trade flows. It might for example be used to encourage the Japanese to reduce their high level of domestic savings — which Mr Shultz at least believes is a fundamental source of the huge Japanese trade surplus which reached \$44 billion this year. In the last week of the IMF, to do all this and more will require the General Capital Increase although finance ministers will probably postpone any formal action until the annual meeting at Seoul in the autumn.

This IMF/Bank co-operation is often far more difficult than it may seem as current dispute over Kenya, where the Bank and IMF have locked horns over the Government's grain marketing monopoly. Similarly, putting more resources into Africa can cause the Bank severe problems as a recent internal report on the International Finance Corporation — showing a sharp deterioration in its African investments in the 1979-84 period — demonstrated.

It is in the informal afternoon sessions that finance ministers intend to take up the debt issue in what has been described as a "free for all." But any thoughts that the industrial countries are going to pull some magic scheme out of the hat, he quickly discounted. Despite the view among executive directors that the crisis has worsened again even though it is far less severe than in 1982.

The list of weak links in the debt grow longer by the day. Argentina with its 100 per cent inflation is not expected to reach any accommodation with the IMF until at least July; the painful Neves transition in Brazil has brought economic negotiations to a halt; Sudan has

all but been declared insolvent for IMF loans — and the list of woes goes on.

For these countries and others like them the promise of multipoint rescheduling at lower interest rates, on the Mexican model, remains pie in the sky. Indeed, all that will be offered them at next week's meetings is moral support — adjustment and austerity.

The only good piece of news for the debtor countries has been the lowering of American interest rates which on IMF projections will remain moderate over the next few months. This may take some of the emotions out of the debate.

However, as recent events in the Sudan demonstrate, IMF inspired austerity can be dangerous: perhaps nowhere more than in Argentina where the democratic traditions is so fragile. A rescheduled world bank, a new issue of SDRs and a less heavily handed policy of conditionality could make all the difference. But with the Americans sitting on their hands there is no cause for optimism in Washington this week.

Barclays Bank, the largest foreign investor in South Africa, refused again yesterday to reconsider its support for the apartheid regime despite mounting attacks on its involvement.

The End Loans to Southern Africa Campaign (ELSA), which has waged a relentless war of words against Barclays, claimed yesterday in a new report that accounts worth \$6 billion have now been withdrawn from the bank because of its support for the South African regime.

But Barclays, which has nearly \$10 billion invested in South Africa and Namibia, has so far escaped lightly from the recent wave of public disapproval which has gathered strength in the United States since the killing of 19 black men, women and children at Otterburn on March 21.

Major US banks, including Citibank, Morgan Guaranty and Manufacturers Hanover have all ended the American climate and decided to refuse further loans to South Africa. But Barclays, which enjoys UK government support for its pre-South African stance, has ignored the investment ban set by its US competitors. Last Friday its merchant banking arm played a leading role in raising 200 million German marks for the South African electricity supply commission, Escom.

Barclays claimed last night that it had not yet seen a copy of ELSA's "shadow report" which also alleges that the bank has failed to help three of its black Namibian employees who were detained without charge by the South African authorities in January. "We continue to declare ourselves as a Barclays spokesman. "But we feel it is best to stay in South Africa to employ constructive engagement."

The Reagan Administration also supports "constructive engagement" in South Africa and play out their dispute. Headlines of America's newspapers the other industrial powers who will meet at Bonn have almost become bystanders in the process.

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Barclays digs in on South Africa

By James Ertchman

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Major US banks, including Citibank, Morgan Guaranty and Manufacturers Hanover have all ended the American climate and decided to refuse further loans to South Africa. But Barclays, which enjoys UK government support for its pre-South African stance, has ignored the investment ban set by its US competitors. Last Friday its merchant banking arm played a leading role in raising 200 million German marks for the South African electricity supply commission, Escom.

Barclays claimed last night that it had not yet seen a copy of ELSA's "shadow report" which also alleges that the bank has failed to help three of its black Namibian employees who were detained without charge by the South African authorities in January. "We continue to declare ourselves as a Barclays spokesman. "But we feel it is best to stay in South Africa to employ constructive engagement."

The Reagan Administration also supports "constructive engagement" in South Africa and play out their dispute. Headlines of America's newspapers the other industrial powers who will meet at Bonn have almost become bystanders in the process.

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The US is anxious that the focus at Bonn should be on a new round of international trade talks under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and not the strength of the dollar and the American budget deficits. It is seeking to demonstrate that domestic economic policies in Japan, namely its high savings rate and tight fiscal and monetary strings, are as much to blame for the imbalances in the world economy as those in the US economy.

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Bow Group slams plans to scrap wages councils

By David Simpson

The Chancellor's Budget promise to scrap Britain's wages councils has been heavily criticised by a leading Conservative pressure group which has concluded that overall, the councils serve a useful purpose.

Instead, he suggests, "wages councils can fairly be described as protecting the weak."

The decision by a wing of its own party to join in the attack on the proposals to abolish wages councils can only further embarrass the government and undermine its determination to scrap the councils.

The decision has already attracted fire from Opposition MPs and trade unionists, and most recently, from the Low Pay Unit which produced a case file to support its claim that without the wages councils, lowly paid workers would have no medium through which to obtain redress against employers.

In the report, the Bow Group found that wages councils fix minimum salary rates for many of the lowest paid workers in the community.

particularly those who could be classified as "weak" in terms of the skills they have to offer and in the strength of their bargaining power.

It also concluded that while 16 to 17 year olds under wages councils agreements tended to receive higher proportional salaries than those in the same age bracket covered by national agreements, there was no hard proof that the abolition of wages councils would lead to the creation of new jobs.

"As to wages councils as a whole, there really is insufficient evidence that their abolition would, in fact, lead to the creation of a sufficiently large number of new jobs so as to make acceptable the loss of the protection they offer at present to those in a weak bargaining position with low pay," Mr Baldry argues.

There are increasing signs that a merger of Ford of the US and Italy's Fiat could agree on wide-ranging cooperation or even a merger of Fiat with Ford's European operation, European car industry sources said in Bonn yesterday.

A joint commission has been reviewing "all aspects of possible cooperation" for several months, according to Rainer Nistl, chief spokesman for Ford's West German subsidiary, Ford-Werke (AG).

The sources said there were now strong signs that the talks had shifted to the highest management level and that a merger of Ford of Europe and Fiat was being actively considered.

C. H. INDUSTRIALS, the Midlands motor supply group which has launched a \$63 million bid for Banar Industries, claimed last night that statements by Ford and Talbot — alleging its unsuitability to acquire Banar — had been distorted and taken out of context. Statements supplied by C. H. Industrials' version of events have apparently been issued by the relevant Ford and Talbot executives.

THIS is a corner of an experimental microchip magnified 23,000 times. Its circuitry is 16 times denser than anything in use today.

It has been made by IBM and is claimed to be the first in the world that uses dimensions of half a micron throughout. A micron is a millionth of a metre. Throughout, about 160 of the

lines shown here would fit within the width of the average human hair.

This example is a logic chip. But IBM have also made storage chips which, once the technology is developed, should be able to hold 18 million bits of information — the contents of more than three standard novels stored in a quarter-inch square.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

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Micronet offers nationwide screen

By Peter Large

Technology Correspondent

The beguiling theory that computer information networks will eventually allow individuals and small groups to bypass the media powers and reach mass audiences at low cost has moved a small step nearer reality.

Micronet 800, the service that so far links 15,000 home computer users on British Telecom's Prestel network, is to offer editorial control of pages to its subscribers — at 4p a time.

The offer opens on June 1 — the date on which Micronet's basic subscription charge rises from £8 to £10 a quarter, the first rise since the service opened two years ago. The charge for filing one screenful with "anything within the law" will be 25p for six months, plus 4p for each editing change.

Members can buy up to 26 frames, which will display their material round the clock, and those messages will be signalled in the Micronet index.

The Prestel service itself was in the 1970s the world pioneer of public information networks, linking the home TV set to central computers down the phone line, and thus raising visions of a free flow of information every which way. But the idea did not grab the general public in those days before the home-computer rush, and Prestel's early success has been in the business world.

Therefore, Prestel today has a minimum entry price of £6,000 for its information providers, though pages can be used more cheaply through negotiations with the umbrella firms that organise clutches of Prestel pages for their customers.

Japan and US in tough trade talks

From Alex Brummer

in Washington.

The two largest, richest and arguably most self-centred industrial powers, the United States and Japan, will hold another round of sparring over trade and protectionism in Tokyo today. This follows the weekend talks in Washington between Mr George Shultz and the Japanese foreign minister Mr Shintaro Abe at which the two powers sought to sweep their differences under the carpet ahead of the Bonn Summit next month.

After negotiations at the State Department between Mr Shultz and Mr Abe the Secretary of State said: "We are all threatened by protectionism," an allusion to the building pressure for economic warfare against Japan on Capitol Hill. Mr Shultz warned that

protectionism was not a cure "it itself is an illness and can spread like the plague."

The US is anxious that the focus at Bonn should be on a new round of international trade talks under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and not the strength of the dollar and the American budget deficits. It is seeking to demonstrate that domestic economic policies in Japan, namely its high savings rate and tight fiscal and monetary strings, are as much to blame for the imbalances in the world economy as those in the US economy.

While the US and Japan play out their dispute, headlines of America's newspapers the other industrial powers who will meet at Bonn have almost become bystanders in the process.

Savings hit the target

By Margaret Dibbon

Money Editor

National Savings made a strong run during the last month of the financial year to come home just the right side of the £3 billion target. This is the fifth year in a row that the department has met its target.

During March, net receipts totalled £290.4 million with a first full month's contribution from the 30th issue fixed interest certificate of £70 million net, but excluding accrued interest. To date this certificate has taken in £250 million and is still selling at the rate of £30 million a week.

However, the index linked certificate, the tranche bond, continues to report a net loss, improved on the February figure but still £67 million more was repaid than received.

Leading coffee-consuming countries are becoming increasingly unhappy about the operations of the price-stabilisation agreement for the commodity and will take the opportunity of talks in London this week with producers to air their grievances. They will be looking for initiatives to end what they see as anomalies created by the pact that work to their disadvantage.

The consumers' main complaint is the much cheaper prices at which producers sell to countries — like the Soviet Union and its allies — that are not members of the International Coffee Organisation (ICO). This 75-nation body, to which the US and all Western European and Nordic nations belong, as well as producers accounting for 99 per cent of all exports, regulates supplies through quotas with the aim of keeping the price within a range of \$1.20-1.40 a pound.

The average price in this controlled market is currently just over \$1.30, yet non-ICO members can buy coffee in the so-called "parallel" market, where producers sell residual exportable supplies, at less than half this.

Furthermore, sales on the

Coffee row percolates

COMMODITIES

Robin Stainer

parallel market have been increasing — reaching a record of 10.3 million bags in the 12 months to the end of February — while exports under quota have been lagging well below entitlement. In the first five months of the current 1980 coffee year, which began last October, exports to non-members were up nearly 20 per cent, yet shipments under quota were only 50 per cent of the allocation for the period.

Many producers concede that the price differential is unfair and, unless narrowed significantly, could be used as a pretext by consumers for arguing for the dismantling of the quota controls, which would mean the complete deregulation of the market. The ICO is not liked by many European traders, particularly those in West Germany who have been further pushed up by the strength of the dollar. Government officials, who conduct ICO business, are having to take note of this antipathy.

Leading producers — like Brazil — are keen to head off criticism of their sales policies and will be pressing this week for their side to take effective measures to pacify consumers. Although producer delegates point out that some of the coffee sold so cheaply is often old and of poor quality, and that economic necessity forces impoverished, indebted countries to sell their surplus at whatever price they can get, they acknowledge that it would make commercial and

political sense to raise prices to non-members. Just this week, however, achieved their goal of lifting prices on the parallel market to at least the bottom end of the ICO-allocated range. Other producers — for instance, the Indonesians, who are big sellers to non-members — have not joined the scheme. Latin American officials who say that the fullest participation is necessary to ensure that it is both fair and successful, admit that the only pressure that can be brought to bear on producers to meet price objectives is moral.

There are obviously enormous difficulties in co-ordinating action when 50 countries are involved. And unless a decisive majority is reached, in any scheme to narrow price differentials a third — and even cheaper — market could develop for coffee.

Brazil, whose own sales record on the parallel market has not been spectacular, is now attempting to give a lead. One of the first acts of the country's new chief coffee executive, Carlos Rischbieter, was to suspend exports to non-members from the beginning of this month.

Improved monitoring of all sales to non-members so provided greater transparency, could be a start towards cracking down on rising shipments at rock bottom prices, producer delegates argue.

150 من الالمن

Philip Kleinman looks at the success story of the UK's top market researcher.

Mind reader with an £80m television act

BUSINESS PEOPLE

THE MOST successful market researcher in Britain started his business life as a magazine publisher - and is one still. He is Bernard Audley, the 60-year-old chairman of AGB, Research, the largest enterprise of its kind in Europe and fifth largest in the world. Audley's ambitions for the future are commensurate with his company's rocket-like rise in the past.

AGB, which started trading in 1962 with practically no assets, went public in 1979 and grew, largely by acquisition, to a turnover in 1983-84 of more than £80 million. It has around 100 subsidiaries in Britain, Continental Europe, America, Australasia and the Far East. In the past six years turnover growth has been faster than even the sanguine Audley predicted.

No wonder AGB was picked by Walter Goldsmith and David Clutterbuck as one of the British commercial success stories celebrated in their book *The Winning Streak*.

Audley's career began in 1950 when, after war service and Oxford, he joined Hulton Press as a trainee. He rose quickly to be assistant general manager of the magazine-publishing firm with responsibility for, among other things, the Hulton Readership Survey. He was also involved in the firm's initial moves to get into television. It was against Audley's advice that Hulton dropped out of both readership research and membership of a consortium bidding for one of the new ITV franchises.

In 1957 he moved to the Atwood research agency to help run its TAM (Television Audience Measurement) subsidiary. Four years later Audley and three fellow directors of TAM fell out with the "autocratic" Bedford Atwood and left to set up their own company. The three others were Dick Gapper, Douglas Brown and Martin Maddan, who was also a Conservative MP.

Of the founding partners, Gapper and Maddan are both

dead, and Brown is semi-retired. Audley's authority within the company is now unchallenged, but in any case he has always been, from the business point of view, its driving force. The affable and self-assured Audley has an engaging habit of speaking about AGB's activities in the first person singular. The foundations of success were laid in that first year when Audley and Brown invented the Television Consumer Audit to monitor consumer purchases of packaged groceries according to ITV regions.

The TCA, which uses a panel of 7,000 households and issues monthly reports to about 100 clients, was the first of the large-scale, continuous, statistical surveys with which AGB has made both its fortune and its reputation. In market research it is in operations like the TCA or the continuous measurement of TV audiences, another AGB speciality, that the real money is earned.

It must have been a sweet moment for Audley and his partners when they first won the TV audience contract in 1968 from their former employer Atwood. AGB has beaten off all challenges in that field ever since. Its present contract with BARB (Broadcasters' Audience Research Board), representing both the BBC and ITV, under which it continuously measures the viewing of 3,000 metered homes, runs until 1991.

An even sweeter moment, no doubt, came in 1979 when AGB took over Atwood Statistics altogether, not long after Audley had bought the rump of the other company which had, previously, employed him. Hulton Press, its consumer magazines had been sold long before to Odhams, but AGB got the trade and technical papers which include titles like *Process Equipment News*. It also bought the remains of Mercury House, another once prominent magazine-publishing house.

Audley sees no great difference between the business of distributing controlled circulation magazines to specially interested people and doing the same thing with research data. "I've thought the research market was a



Bernard Audley - No. 1 in Europe. Picture by Kenneth Saunders

from advertising, in the other from subscriptions. Audley is at one with other leading market researchers in seeing their future as bound up with that of the information industry as a whole.

This is because of the ever-increasing computerisation of research. It is in that context that one must see recent developments like the merger between Dun & Bradstreet and A. C. Nielsen, the world's largest market research company.

There has been some recent speculation about the possibility of AGB's becoming a takeover target itself. Rumours that Saatchi & Saatchi, the advertising agency group, had been talking merger with AGB were fairly convincingly denied, though Charles Saatchi said wistfully that AGB would be a nice business to have.

Behind such rumours were two facts: First Audley, though indisputably the boss, owns only a third of AGB's stock, and all the directors together have less than 5 per cent; and second, results for the first half of AGB's financial year (which ends this month) disappointed the City's high expectations.

In 1983-84 pre-tax profit rose by 30 per cent to nearly £8 million. In the first six months of 1984-85 profit, at £3,500,000, was up by less than 250,000 on the corresponding period of the previous year. The slowdown in profits growth is mainly attributable to heavy investment in new technology and new services and is expected to be reversed next year, when the group is hoping for increased returns from its overseas operations, which now account for more than 50 per cent of turnover.

The most ambitious of such operations is currently taking place in the USA where AGB,

which entered the American market by acquisition three years ago, is taking on the giants of TV audience research, Nielsen and Arbitron, and aiming to beat them in a test study of several hundred households in the Boston area using People-Meters to record electronically.

If the test is successful AGB plans to go national with a sample of 5,000 households, more than twice the size of the present Nielsen sample. The test is being partly financed by American advertisers and media-owners. They are probably impressed by the fact pointed out by Audley that while Nielsen earns \$50 million a year from a sample of 1,700 TV homes, in the US, "I get only \$3 million for a panel of 3,000 in the UK."

Another area where AGB is hoping for great things is the Far East, where a few years ago it acquired the Survey Research Group, which operates in eight Asian countries. The Hong Kong arm of the organisation has been negotiating with Chinese officials about the possibility of extending its activities into mainland China.

This may appear ironic in view of Audley's own strongly held Tory political beliefs. When the Conservative Party was in opposition Sir Geoffrey Howe had a seat on the AGB board. He was succeeded as a non-executive director by Sir John Hoskyns, former adviser to Mrs Thatcher and now director-general of the Institute of Directors.

Philip Kleinman is the author of *Market Research: Head-Counting Becomes Big Business*, published this week by Corgi at £15 and available from the publishers, 9 Point Street, London, W1V 5DE.

Here we go again. Mrs Thatcher sees a new realism in the union camp. But David Bassett detects insurrection. John Torode watches Government and unions retreat to entrenched positions as miners, postmen, civil servants, and teachers are "seen off" by a resolute Prime Minister

Banging on about Britain



WORKING BRIEF

"HERE WE GO, here we go, here we go," in the words of the song which so misleadingly boosted morale during the miners' strike. Now it can be applied to the quite astonishing series of union bashing speeches the Prime Minister delivered to business audiences in assorted havens of ballot box rule around the Far East.

"Banging the drum for Britain" is the way Mrs Thatcher described her attacks on Scargillism. "Mind-boggling" was the phrase which sprang to the mind of David Bassett, chairman of the TUC's economic committee.

There has long been a suspicion that public figures do not go abroad and then run the country down. On occasion this convention is breached. Mr Scargill made a right wally of himself in Moscow a couple of years back with sexist sneers about the Iron Lady and President Reagan (geddit?). The "foreign secretary" of the TUCU, Alex Kilson, had a few years earlier publicly rejoiced upon arrival in the USSR about entering the home of socialism and free trade unionism.

The Prime Minister can claim that she was talking the country up rather than running it down. Britain is no longer the sick man of Europe. We are tackling our fundamental problems. Determined to succeed and so forth. Nothing wrong with any of that. Except that some might feel Mrs Thatcher is lying in the face of reality. Four million unemployed, an unprecedented trade deficit in manufactured goods, Neil Kinnock or David Owen would have had problems pulling their mouths around

such optimistic stuff.

Mrs Thatcher even presented the miners' strike as a sign of strength. The economy had withstood its gravest challenge since the end of the second world war. "During that strike, designed to bring the country to its knees, industrial production actually increased," she said. The country owed a great debt of gratitude to those miners who had worked on in spite of cruel intimidation. "I hope and believe that the lesson will not be lost on others," the Prime Minister added.

There was plenty more in the vein. The attitude of working miners and the lack of support from other unions were great achievements, as was the new leadership of the moderate trade unions. Most important was the fact that "at first a minority and then eventually a majority of miners showed they were not prepared to follow the instructions of militant trade union leaders, especially when those leaders refused to hold a national ballot."

Underlining our national unity and sense of common purpose?

Mrs Thatcher's conclusion, as delivered at a press conference in Malaysia: "I am not going to have British chances of trade which are good, ruined by an undeserved reputation for bad industrial relations." She told the assembled backs: "There are very few difficulties in the private sector."

Set aside the appropriateness of the venues selected for these homilies and the question of whether they might not be a trifle well counter-productive. Was the effect of all this banging on about having seen off the enemy within (after the longest, most bitter and most violent strike in our history and at the cost of the Government losing in the opinion polls) to underline our national unity, stability and sense of common purpose? Or might it rather have underlined international fears of

"the fire next time", to recycle a phrase from the American ghettos a quarter of a century back?

Those revolutionary fears are current even in Britain. The mind-boggled Mr Bassett's contribution was to argue that, with the unions denied political influence and management on the offensive with due encouragement from the government, unions will seek what the leader of our third biggest union ominously describes as "other means" to assert their members' interests.

The retiring chief of the General, Municipal and Boilermakers' Union went on: "Before the last election I made a speech on these lines talking of insurrectionary trade unions. I made it clear that I did not favour this road, but that it existed."

Mr Bassett's conclusion was: "If managements are encouraged to confront unions, and if trade unions are barred from political influence, then it is inevitable that disputes of this character will continue to occur and the blame for this political development can only lie with the government."

To which the short answer must surely be another chorus of "Here we go." Mr Bassett followed the example of the Prime Minister and was out there beating his tired old drum as firmly as Mrs Thatcher had beaten hers.

Mr Bassett did indeed talk of insurrectionary unionism before the last election and he came precious close to calling Mrs Thatcher a fascist too. Much good did such deeply but vaguely threatening platitudes do the Labour movement at the ballot box in 1983.

In much the same way, the miners' strike, as a protest over job losses, the destruction of communities and the Thatcherite style won considerable support. But the strike as often presented in the early days by Mr Scargill - a quasi-revolutionary act, designed to bring about the downfall of this government - invoked a large collective raspberry from the overwhelming mass of trade union members, including Mr Bassett's.

Yet, shorn of the rhetoric, Mr Bassett was partly right. The lesson of coal is that it is still possible to conduct long,

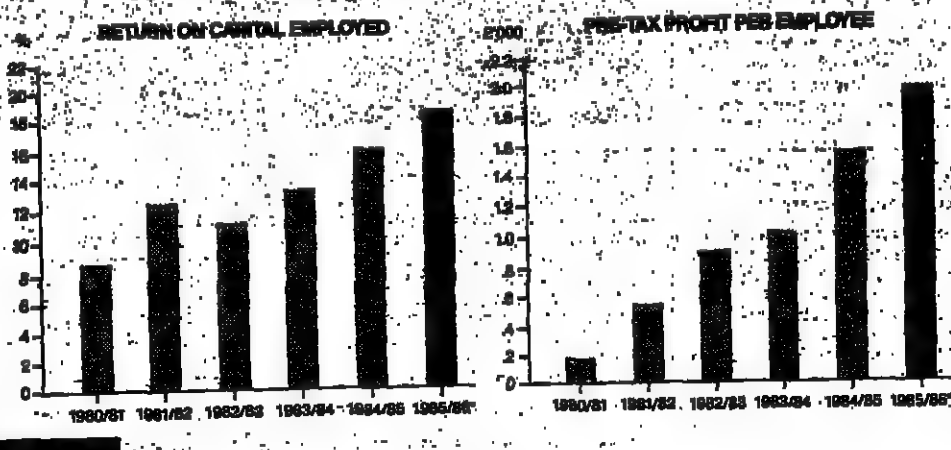
bitter, fearfully costly, "politically motivated" public sector disputes. They will be fought upon the backs of a minority of union activists and the fivers of a mass of liberal minded, middle class sympathisers. They will not be "insurrectionary" in that they will not be seriously designed to bring down the government. They will be negative and destructive gestures of despair from people who know they are going to lose but who do not know what else to do.

An understandable inclination to keep heads down and noses clean

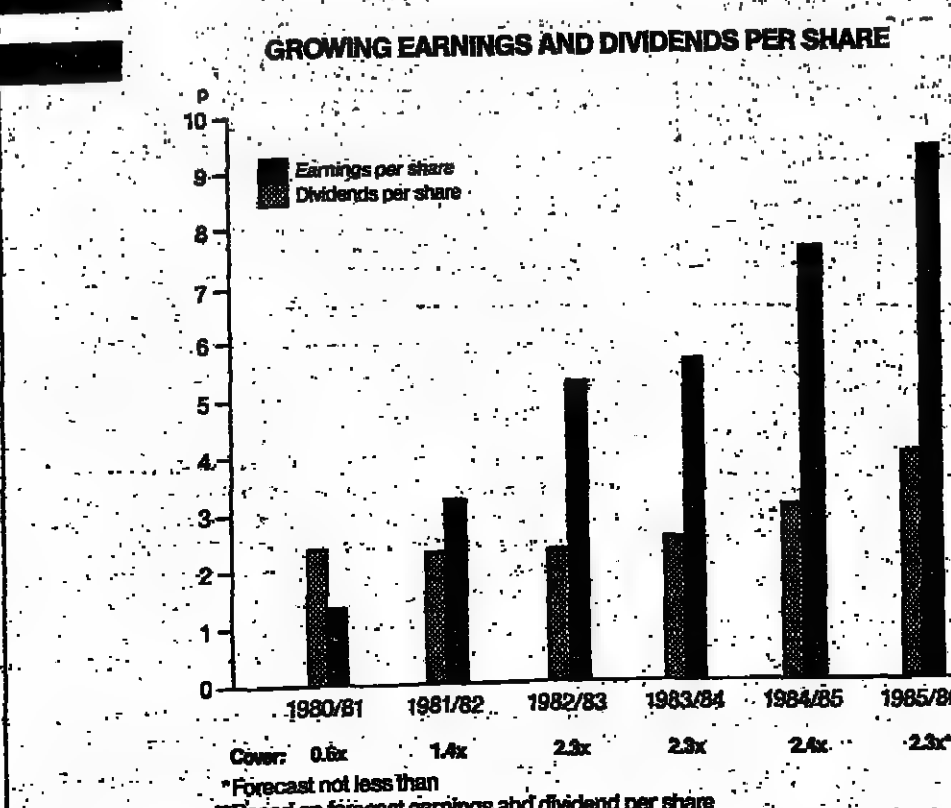
None of which is to say that all big public sector set pieces will be fought through. Confronted by economic reality, privatisation and a cool management, the post office union backed off. So did civil servants, exorcised by the ballot box. Railway workers, on the other hand, played to a draw. They persuaded British Rail to give ground. They got their "going rate" settlement and, yet again, BR abandoned any attempt to enforce productivity concessions negotiated and paid for years ago. Meanwhile, teachers bashed on as if they had never heard of the decline and fall of the Scargill empire.

Mrs Thatcher too was right in part. There are relatively few difficulties in the private sector just now. But that is a measure of two things, a result of two distinct features. With four million unemployed and bankruptcies at a record level there is an understandable inclination to keep your heads down and your noses clean. On the other hand, wage settlements in the private sector are running at twice the level of those in public service. They are approximately one third above the rate of inflation. So an uneasy mix of fear of the dole queue and buying pay packets is keeping manufacturing industry in order. There can be precious little stability and little satisfaction for the Prime Minister or for Brother Bassett in such a situation.

Why Shareholders Should Stick with Tootal



RETURN ON CAPITAL EMPLOYED PRE-TAX PROFIT PER EMPLOYEE



GROWING EARNINGS AND DIVIDENDS PER SHARE

Hawker Siddeley 1984 Results in Brief

	1984	1983
Turnover	£1,600m	£1,457m
Profit before tax	£151.5m	£137.5m
Profit after tax and minority interests	£86.7m	£84.9m
Earnings per share	43.9p	43.0p
Total dividend per share	11.8p	11.0p
Shareholders funds	£875.2m	£782.3m

Sales and trading profit by geographical area

	Sales		Trading Profit	
	1984	1983	1984	1983
	£m	£m	£m	£m
United Kingdom	819	823	54.9	70.5
Canada	208	172	24.6	20.0
USA	251	173	35.3	17.3
Australia	227	190	17.1	14.5
Others	95	99	10.2	10.5
	1,600	1,457	142.1	132.8

Annual Report 1984
The Annual Report for the year to 31st December 1984 of Hawker Siddeley Group PLC will be posted to shareholders on 10th May 1985.

Annual General Meeting
The Annual General Meeting will be held at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, London W1 on 19th June 1985 at 12 noon.

For a copy of the Annual Report, please write to:
The Secretary, Hawker Siddeley Group PLC 18 St. James's Square, London SW1Y 4LJ.

HAWKER SIDDELEY GROUP
PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY
Engineers to the world

POPULAR ALGERIA
THE CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES
RISE NATIONALE (SNT)
CALL TO TENDER IN
LAUNCHING A NATIONAL
FROM THE PROVISIONS
\$
HYTING EQUIPMENT
NT

Tootal Group
Our names add up to strength
Stick with us

Each Director of Tootal Group plc (including those who have delegated detailed supervision of this advertisement) has taken all reasonable care to ensure that the facts stated and the opinions expressed herein are fair and accurate. Each of the Directors accepts responsibility accordingly.

ALL IT IN THE
DIAN

David Davies reports from Augusta

Mounting casualties over assault course

GOLF

AFTER three rounds of the 49th US Masters in Augusta, Georgia, 14 players were within four shots of the lead, and a further seven were only one shot worse, in theory, more players had a chance of winning the title than in almost any championship in recent history.

That is because many of the challengers failed to take the kind of chances they would normally have seized, with the result that Ray Floyd, with a four-under-par 212 led by one shot from Curtis Strange and by two from Bernhard Langer and Seamus Ballesteros.

Three shots behind came Tom Watson, and those three shots were covered by the group of seven players who had in the third round, the first time he could remember doing such a thing.

Clive Everton at the World Championship

Griffiths and Meo start in the pink

SNOOKER

Assuming Steve Davis beats David Taylor, as he always has except in the 1982 Jameson International quarter-final, either Alex Higgins or Terry Griffiths will be the champion's quarter-final opponent in the Embassy World Championship at the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield.

Higgins, whose 10-5 defeat by Dennis Taylor in Belfast last Thursday ended his tenure of the Irish title, was not expected to be a contender for the title. A 32-year-old left-hander from Grimsby 10-4 while Griffiths prevailed 10-3 over the former World Professional Billiards champion, Rex Williams.

Reynolds did not do himself justice on Saturday as he fell 8-1 behind, but played much better yesterday, winning three of the five frames, one of which was a break of 94. By that time, however, it was only the score rather than the result which was in any doubt.

Two months before Griffiths won the World title at his first attempt six years ago, he lost to Williams in the final of the UK qualifying after leading 8-2. Saturday's early frames were thick with snooker as Griffiths took 30 minutes to win the first on the pink to take the second on the black and three hours 38 minutes to lead 4-1 overnight.

There was another two hours 48 minutes of similar fare yesterday morning which was more for the connoisseur than the easily bored.

Williams' break of 51 in his clinching frame was the highest in the contest. Nevertheless, he has the class to respond to the entirely different tactical pattern which Higgins

first three rounds and initial researches indicated that you have to go back to the 1920s to find a major championship won with a score of such proportions in the total.

The course, and the way it has been set up, must be responsible for such a relatively patternless Masters. The plus have been placed in some cruel and occasionally impossible positions, which meant that sooner or later everyone was going to make a major mistake.

The flag on the short 12th, for instance, was set very close to the front bunker for the third round, and in trying to get near, Craig Stadler found the sand. Then, trying to finesse his recovery he left the ball in the bunker twice, and took a triple-bogey six. He ended with a third-round 74, and set at 216 and only four behind, still had a real chance of his second Masters green jacket.

Ballesteros was left with a even better chance of his third title at the end of the third round, but a man with a short game such as his must have ruid his bunker shots at the 12th and 13th. On the last occasion he simply got too greedy and failed to get at all, and at the 12th his ball was buried in the top lip.

After the first round, Ballesteros had said that if he were level-par after three

rounds he would have a good chance, and an informal poll of among 10 American golf writers after the third round revealed that seven of them favoured the Spaniard, two of them went for Watson and only one for Floyd.

This year Floyd had, for the first time, set down and written out his tactics for the tournament. He constructed a plan to play each hole, depending on the conditions, and intended to stay with it regardless of whether he was going well or badly.

"The key is in not getting so far behind that you have to gamble," he said.

Langer was paired with Ballesteros for the last round, which he said did not bother him. But after they played together in the final round of the Openlast year, Langer later accused Ballesteros of trying to intimidate him. Fortunately, they later resolved their differences.

Sandy Lyle, only three shots behind after two rounds, had a disappointing 74 in his third, which left him seven behind. The only disaster was a visit to the water at the short, 12th but that led to a homeward half of 40, from 120, and he still two shots ahead of Nick Faldo and Sam Torrance, though, as the European, though, at least from that quarter, faded.

Faldo and Torrance made



WATCH THE BIRDIE: Ray Floyd triumphs at the 16th before finishing as third-round leader

a brighter showing as the final round started, going out to 35 and 36 respectively, but for them it was a case of too little, too late.

21st - B. Langer (W. Ger) 72, 74, 68, 5; Ballesteros (Spa) 72, 71, 71, 71, 216; Watson (W. Scot) 70, 72, 71, 71, 214; Lyle (S. Scot) 70, 72, 71, 71, 214; Faldo (W. Scot) 70, 72, 71, 71, 214; Torrance (W. Scot) 70, 72, 71, 71, 214; Langer (W. Ger) 72, 74, 68, 5; Ballesteros (Spa) 72, 71, 71, 71, 216; Watson (W. Scot) 70, 72, 71, 71, 214; Lyle (S. Scot) 70, 72, 71, 71, 214; Faldo (W. Scot) 70, 72, 71, 71, 214; Torrance (W. Scot) 70, 72, 71, 71, 214.

21st - B. Langer (W. Ger) 72, 74, 68, 5; Ballesteros (Spa) 72, 71, 71, 71, 216; Watson (W. Scot) 70, 72, 71, 71, 214; Lyle (S. Scot) 70, 72, 71, 71, 214; Faldo (W. Scot) 70, 72, 71, 71, 214; Torrance (W. Scot) 70, 72, 71, 71, 214.

CYCLING

Charles Burgess with the Paris-Roubaix

Madiot's piece of heaven

THE GREATEST one day cycle race in the world, the Paris-Roubaix, lived up to its nickname of Hell of the North yesterday.

The magnificent third edition of the race on the wind was rain-swept and the tracks of northern France ended with only 25 of the 172 starters making the final circuit of the Roubaix velodrome and those who did were scarcely recognizable as they were covered in mud from head to toe in mud. They could all have been extras in the video for Thriller.

The winner, by nearly two minutes, was Marc Madiot who is only the second Frenchman to win the Queen of the Classics in 29 years. Madiot, 26, however, could not afford to punch the air and blow muddy kisses to a ecstatic crowd as he cruised the final bend. He had won the amateur version several years ago but this puts him among the stars.

Second was his Benelux teammate, Bruno Vanneste, and third was last year's winner, the Irishman Sean Kelly who was 12 second behind. Kelly beat the American Greg Lemond in a final sprint.

The drama had begun when riders left the first of 36 sections of paved, the notorious cobbles that are feared especially for the event. It was just before the halfway stage of the 265-kilometre race and riders were dropping like flies in crash after crash. Types



MADIOT: muddled winner

punctured with ease. It was like trying to find a way through a minefield and for many, with time lost, there was no point continuing.

A spill split the end of the victory hope of Francesco Moser, the darling of Italy and three-time winner. He made an attack to catch up with three men who had broken away, caught them, and was on his own.

Vandererden, the former Belgian, shot out of the leading pack which included Kelly. The Italian and Belgian were neck and neck, a couple of hundred metres clear, when with 32 kilometres to go, Moser's bike slid from under him on the greasy surface.

By the time he had a replacement the others had surged past. Soon afterwards Vandererden was swallowed up too. He had made his break too soon.

That left seven men in contention and with 11 kilometres to go Madiot made his move with perfect timing. He took advantage of the others watching each other to sprint clear. They never saw him again.

Pat Rowley

Gladman sees red

HOCKEY

Chris Gladman, named player of the tournament after the senior divisional A fortnight ago, finished the junior divisional at Loughborough in a red card by umpire John Anderson after the final whistle.

No doubt frustrated at East's 2-2 defeat by Midlands — their third successive defeat in the final by that division — Gladman apparently expressed his view of Anderson's implication in language that would not be permitted on TV and certainly has no place on a sports field.

But since cards are only valid during a game, the East took the initiative and immediately suspended Gladman for nine days and one trust, firmly cautioned him as to his future behaviour considering he is a leading candidate for England's junior world cup team.

Midlands won the title for the fourth successive year, despite losing 3-0 to South in a group game. Much credit must go to coach Alwyn Twigg and manager Martin Greenough.

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Irish ride out the storm

Ireland destroyed England's hopes of a clean sweep in the Home Countries Women's Championships with a typically English victory at Grange Road, Dublin.

Outplayed for much of the game on a wet artificial pitch, Ireland had rarely threatened while England, with ample opportunity, squandered their chances, and had only themselves to blame.

The England captain, Linda Carr, saw her comfortably placed penalty stroke knocked out to a post and safety by Mary Gentry in the seventh minute but, when Ireland had a similar chance 10 minutes from time, the Irish captain,

Noelle Branagan, made no mistake.

England opened the match with some of their best hockey of the season and inspired by Karen Brown in full flow threatened an avalanche. Lack of an effective central strike force and weak finishing nullified superb combination passing and opportunities created by Brown, Bamister and Soyay.

With the Irish defence led expertly by Branagan gaining confidence, their front three of Sloan, Potter and Metcalf later breached England's ranks with some ease.

Janet Ruff

David Irvine in Dallas

Lendl races to record treble

TENNIS

Ivan Lendl became the first European to win the WCT title for the second time in Dallas yesterday when he defeated the American, Tim Mayotte, 7-6, 6-4, in the hands of the electric clock in the Reunion Arena stood directly on the noonday mark. His three victories for the \$125,000 championship had encompassed exactly 40 hours — a remarkable achievement.

More remarkable still was the fact that the Czech had completed a three-week run to win successive titles at Fort Myers on cement, Monte Carlo on clay and Dallas on carpet. Never before has that been done in professional tennis.

Perhaps not surprisingly it was a rather disappointing and one-sided climax. With John McEnroe having lost in his opening match and Jimmy Connors having defaulted to Lendl midway through their semi-final with a back injury, Mayotte stepped bravely into the breach but with a few exceptions in the first set — looked a little out of his depth.

Mayotte's problem was that he could not handle Lendl's serve. He did take 12 points off the Czech in the first set, mainly early on when he scored his only break but could gain only four in the second and three in the third.

Had Connors been working anything like normally it might have been the fastest final on record. As it was his ground strokes on the backhand side were littered with mishits and misdirections — at least, until he found his rhythm towards the end.

The WCT, who love slogans, held the match as the "breakfast shoot-out." It was Lendl,

however, who enjoyed the meal. Mayotte played a brave attacking game, covering the net well and picking off some spectacular volleys. All too often, though, the sheer power of Lendl's shots made it impossible for him to control the ball.

It was the 45th title that Lendl had won since 1980. McEnroe has had three more in the same period — and his grumbling at having had to swap surfaces and continents to win it faded away when he learnt that he had a unique treble in his grasp. "Can anyone find me a grass-court tournament next week?" he asked with a self-satisfied grin.

Mayotte may not have won but there is little doubt that his performance in Dallas suggests he can have a good Wimbledon. "The difference in my game now," he said, "is that I'm acting instinctively instead of being analytical. I was trained in the think-through process and it didn't help to move in the other direction. But I'm getting better at it."

Lendl's assurance at having to get up for a match which began at 9.45 am perhaps accounted for his uncertain start. Mayotte recovered an early break in the first set, saved a set point at 4-5 but was unable to hang on in the tie-break after leading 3-1. This second set saw Lendl grow ever stronger, though the only break came in the ninth game when the American double-faulted. The third set lasted for only 28 minutes.

While Lendl now moves on to a four-man exhibition event in Tokyo, Connors announced from Los Angeles that he would be out of the game for at least two weeks. He had ripped a muscle in his lower back in Saturday's semi-final and had to default for only the third time in a 13-year professional career.

Dilip Rao

Baddeley ends jinx

BADMINTON

Steve Baddeley, England's No. 1, held off a spirited challenge from last year's winner, Andy Goode, to regain after three seasons the men's singles title in the English National Championships yesterday. He won 15-11, 15-17.

Although a vastly improved player since his last triumph — he was a quarter-finalist at the recent All-England and had some outstanding results in the Thomas Cup competition last year — Baddeley had not won another singles championship in an intervening time except in an invitation tournament.

Having laid the jinx, Baddeley also won the men's doubles for the first time, in partnership with the old stager Mike Tredgett, another left hander. Cricketer has won the event 10 times in the last 14 years.

In the singles final, Goode who was seeded to progress beyond the quarter-finals, played exceedingly well, using some of his doubles expertise to keep Baddeley under pressure.

When Baddeley did attack, Goode was equally ready. If he did not stretch Baddeley further, or even beat him as he did when they last met, it was because he made errors at crucial stages, perhaps from over eagerness.

Flint Elliott retained the women's singles title with a runaway win over the junior champion from Lancashire, 17-year-old Sarah Halsall.

The women's doubles final was a thriller. Gillian Gills and Paula Kilvington over setting in the final game. Their win must have been particularly gratifying for the two Gillians because it was a contrast to the wisher of both that the England selectors would not let them play together in the forthcoming world championships.

Miss Bowers, in the world championship, has been paired with Helen Troke, a singles specialist who it is believed wants to give up playing doubles in two years time.

Champions All has often been one of the most calamitously notable events in the international calendar. Saturday's tournament at Wembley did not maintain the formidable standard it has set itself, writes Benjamin Raphael.

There were acres of empty seats, largely because the competition was held during the school holidays which restrict the marshalling of coaches of children. The result was a sad lack of atmosphere. This was accentuated because the event was often held up as officials argued among themselves over the new judging code adopted after the Olympics.

World Cup in its six years, have six riders through to the final in Berlin this week, writes John Kerr. They are John and Michael Whiteaker, Nick Skelton, Malcolm Pirah and Harvey and Robert Smith. Only West Germany, with seven, will have a larger representation in Europe's allowance of 20.

BOXING: Kostas Petrou, of Birmingham, who won the vacant British welterweight title in Darlington on Saturday, stopping Rocky Kelly in nine rounds, has earned himself the British nomination for a fight for the European championship. The reward is hotly disputed by Sylvester Mittee, who was unconvinced in retaining Commonwealth championship on the same bill, outpointing Martin McGuogh.

SAILING: The Crebbin Cup was effectively blown off at the weekend, writes Bob Fisher. The junior match racing championship will be resailed from Royal Lynton Cup, the national match racing championship, for which the winner of the Crebbin Cup qualifies to join seven foreign and two British skippers.

MARATHON: Salah Ahmed of Dibrout came within four seconds of the world best time when he was the first World Cup men's marathoner Hiroshima yesterday. Ahmed, winner of last year's Paris marathon, outran Takekuni Nakayama of Japan in the last 600 metres to win 12hr 5min 9sec. The women's race was won by East Germany's Katrin Dörre.

Geoff Smith is clear favourite to win today's 89th Boston marathon, for the second year,

CRICKET: Desmond Haynes hit an unbeaten 148 to help West Indies reach 259 for five off their 50 overs in the third one-day international against New Zealand at Ebbw Vale, yesterday. He and Logie (26) put on 80 in 10 overs for the fourth wicket. New Zealand won the toss. West Indies won the first two matches.

SHOOTING: Britain, who have yet to win the Volvo

RESULTS

Rugby League

CLASH LANCERS CHAMPIONSHIP

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MADHOUSE by Alvin
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